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Railways backs out of human error claim; toll climbs to 10

Senior official acknowledges that automatic signalling system was not working; Kavach was absent; Commissioner of Railway Safety will begin probe into the cause of the accident today

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

The death toll in the accident involving Kanchanjunga Express and a goods train in Darjeeling district of West Bengal rose to 10 on Tuesday, with a six-year-old child dying of injuries at the North Bengal Medical College and Hospital.

The Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) will begin an inquiry into the cause of the accident on Wednesday, even as the Railways seemed to walk back its initial claim that human error caused the accident, acknowledging that the automatic signalling system was not working on the route.

The Kavach train protection system is yet to be installed for the region's rail network.

Tragic incident: The wreckage of the Kanchanjunga Express passenger train at Rangapani in West Bengal on Tuesday. AFP

The deceased include three Railway employees – the driver of the goods train initially blamed for the accident, the guard of the Kanchanjunga Express, and a Railway Mail Service employee travelling in the parcel van of the express – and seven passengers.

Railway services were restored through the down line at the accident site from 7.30 a.m. on Tuesday, with the first passenger train passing through at 10.42 a.m. Operations on the up line had been restored at 5.40 p.m. on Monday. Three trains were diverted and two were cancelled on Tuesday due to the accident.

The survivors from the Kanchanjunga Express – which had left Agartala station at 8.25 a.m. on Sunday –reached Sealdah station in Kolkata on Tuesday morning, with many passengers in a state of trauma and shock from the ordeal.

Having visited the accident site on Tuesday, Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety Janak Kumar Garg said an inquiry will be made to ascertain the reasons for the accident.

"The automatic signal was not working and so the drivers had to follow certain procedures. The first driver had to follow those procedures and similarly, the driver after that. Now we have to investigate what mistakes were made," he said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

NEET: Deal with any negligence thoroughly, says SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday made it clear to the Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA) that it did not want "even .001% negligence" on the part of anyone in the conduct of the undergraduate medical entrance examination – NEET-UG 2024 – to be spared. "Even if there is .001% negligence on the part of anyone, it should be thoroughly dealt with," said Justice S.V. Bhatti, part of a Vacation Bench headed by Justice Vikram Nath, addressing the lawyers appearing for the Centre and the NTA.

The court hearing was based on two petitions filed by over 30 candidates urging the court to take cognisance of the NEET controversy. The court said that the NTA, which conducts the exam for medical admissions, should be able to take a firm stand and own up to having made mistakes, if any.

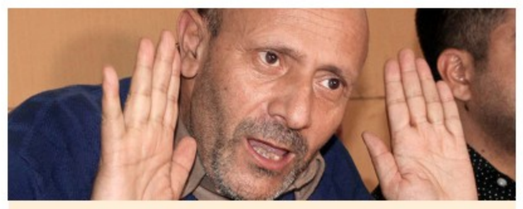
"You [NTA] must stand firm. If there is a mistake, say, 'Yes, there is a mistake. This is the action we are going to take.' At least that will inspire confidence in your performance," Justice Bhatti told advocate Kanu Agrawal, appearing for the NTA and the Centre. Justice Nath issued notice and directed the Centre and the NTA to submit their responses in two weeks.

> NTA must stand firm. If there is a mistake, say yes, there is a mistake. This is the action we are going to take.
> SC BENCH

Agreeing with Justice Bhatti, Justice Nath remarked orally that the allegations of irregularities in this year's NEET were "very serious". Justice Bhatti told the Centre and NTA that they should not treat the petitions filed by NEET aspirants and academicians as adversarial.

"Imagine a person who has played fraud on the system becoming a doctor. That would be deleterious to society," he said, highlighting the honest effort put in by lakhs of students to prepare for the NEET exam and noting that cheating thwarted honest effort and ambition," he said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12



ENGINEER RASHID'S BAIL
Delhi court asks NIA to file reply on plea
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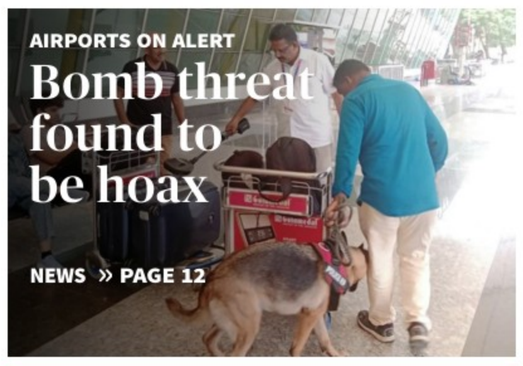

AIRPORTS ON ALERT
Bomb threat found to be hoax
NEWS » PAGE 12

TIME FOR CENSUS
Delaying it can fast-track delimitation
Opposition must push for a deadline
OPINION » PAGE 11

PERFECT FINISH
Nicholas Pooran helps WI crush Afghanistan
SPORT » PAGE 17

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NEARBY

HC permits BTC to hold horse races, betting activities

BENGALURU
Observing that the State government "*prima facie* acted in an irrational, illegal, arbitrary and unreasonable manner" in refusing to grant licence to Bangalore Turf Club (BTC) to conduct racing and betting activities, the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday permitted the BTC to conduct on-course, off-course horse racing and betting activities by adhering to laws. » Page 2

High Court grants anticipatory bail to Bhavani

BENGALURU
In a relief to Bhavani Revanna, mother of rape-accused Prajwal Revanna, former MP, the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday granted regular anticipatory bail in the case of alleged abduction of one of the victims of her son's sexual assaults.
Justice Krishna S. Dixit passed the order while allowing Ms. Bhavani's petition. » Page 6

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 5

Mind over matter: Rathika stresses on importance of mental strength

The ace squash player attributes much of her progress to coach Harinder Pal who has been guiding her for a few months now; "Whatever he says, I try my best to listen to it as he has international experience and his inputs have been beneficial," says the 23-year-old

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

S. Prasanna Venkatesan

Rathika Suthanthira Seelan won her maiden PSA Challenger title in the Indore leg of the HCL Squash Tour in May.

In the same month, she also won the National women's doubles title with Pooja Arthi at the Indian Squash and Triathlon Academy (ISTA) here.

Consistence is key

Rathika attributes her progress to her coach Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu, who's been mentoring her for a few months now.

"I have been training with him for 3-4 months now. Game-wise, I'm playing more consistently. Earlier, I didn't have consistent results. Now, it's comparatively more consistent.

"We work almost everyday. Whatever he says, I try my best to listen to it. He has international experience, so his inputs have been beneficial," she said at the ISTA.

Mental fortitude

Rathika said that the Brain Training (Neurofeedback training), which is a part of the HCL Squash Podium Program, has also been helpful.

"We have mental games - virtual reality. Basically, it's to improve reaction time. We've been doing a lot of breathing exercises. So, it helps for me to reset myself after long rallies," she said adding that she's able to stretch herself when the match gets stretched.

For instance, she rallied from a game down to win the 45-minute quarterfinal, 9-11, 11-8, 11-8, 11-13, 11-1, versus Pooja Raghu in the Chennai leg of the HCL Squash Tour.

But she suffered a straight-game loss to Anahat Singh in the final. An off-colour Rathika made enough unforced errors to play herself out of the contest.

It was Rathika's second loss to Anahat in the PSA Challenger Tour this year. She had lost in straight games in just 16 minutes in the semifinal of the JSW Willingdon Little Masters and Senior Tournament in Mumbai in January.

Learning curve

Speaking of these losses, she said she needed to improve her mental resilience to perform better in such crucial matches.

"(In Monday's final) I made a lot of mistakes. I mostly couldn't anticipate what she would do, and was very slow. Definitely, I have to be mentally stronger. I know she is a better player and that was a mental block, because I think it impeded me from playing freely and comfortably. I think I should work mentally, more than on-court. No matter how much I push physically, I think mentally it matters at the end of the day."

THE GIST

- Rathika attributes her progress to her coach Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu, who's been coaching her for a few months now.
- Rathika said that the Brain Training (Neurofeedback training), which is a part of the HCL Squash Podium Program, has also been helpful

Laksiri — an apparel manufacturing unit employee single-handedly stitching together a career in squash; aims to break into top-50 rankings

S. Prasanna Venkatesan

Ravindu Laksiri's first visit to Chennai in twelve years turned out to be fortunate, as he had a walkover win declared for him after his opponent Rahul Baitha failed to turn up within the stipulated time for the men's final in the HCL Squash Tour.

It was Laksiri's second PSA Challenger title in four tournaments in India this year. He'd lost in the finals of the Hamdard Squashters Northern Slam in New Delhi and the Poona Club Open in Pune, before winning back-to-back titles in the HCL Squash Tour in Indore and Chennai. So, if it was third time lucky for him, the fourth time was unbelievably lucky!

"Actually, I saw that a lot of Indian Junior players played very well. For instance, I played one of the top players in the u-15 category (Lokesh Subramani) in the second round. I think compared to Sri Lanka, there are more good players in India," he observed after his title win at the Indian Squash and Triathlon Academy (ISTA).

Crowd favourite

The 28-year-old is one of the top players in his country and has won eleven National singles titles since 2013. He said that there are currently seven PSA circuit players in Sri Lanka and there is a good pool of players in Colombo.

The 28-year-old is one of the top players in his country and has won eleven National singles titles since 2013. He said that there are currently seven PSA circuit players in Sri Lanka and there is a good pool of players in Colombo.

"Squash is very popular in Colombo and Kandy. They have good players in the Colombo area. They have a lot of players in the u-9 till u-19 age groups. The army and the Navy also have a lot of players."

He felt that Sri Lanka doesn't have the ideal squash infrastructure, and added that there's not even a single all-glass court in the entire country.

"You have a lot of academies in Sri Lanka. Actually, they have courts, but not in good condition. They have no glass courts in Sri Lanka. We have a big challenge (getting accustomed to glass courts) when we go to other countries," he said.

Desperate measures

At the peak of Sri Lanka's financial crisis, the National squash team had to stay and practice at an army camp for around a month before the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

"It was very difficult to play at that time. There was no petrol, no gas, and queues were everywhere. We couldn't go to practice because of a lack of transportation. We were staying in one place and playing squash, and somehow managed at that time. They had an army camp in Colombo. We stayed there and played. I think we spent one month before the Commonwealth Games. The entire team stayed there."

Laksiri is an HR executive with Brandix, an apparel manufacturing firm based in Sri Lanka. His employer sponsors his participation in PSA tournaments and without a dedicated coach, he keeps learning through playing.

"I don't have any coach in Sri Lanka. I got the experience only through the matches. I learn through travelling and playing. I actually started my full-time professional career in 2022. I suppose I've become a professional player very late," he said.

He reckoned that the European circuit is the most competitive and challenging from his experience and stated that his primary goal is to break into the top-50 (current rank - 133) in the PSA men's singles rankings.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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No.EE/KSPH&IDCL/CNT/TND/04/2024 -25/113 Date: 18.06.2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Call-3)

KSPH & IDCL invites online tender as per KTPP 2000 Act & as per Standard Tender Document through KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works.

Construction of 12 PC Quarters at Suntikoppa in Kodagu District Under Police Gruha 2025 (Phase-4) Scheme Package No.50 on Lump Sum Turnkey Basis-Coventional Method of Construction (Framed Structure) (G+2 Floors (Call-3) (KW-4) (Two Tender Document Systems). Amount Put to Tender: **Rs.348.72** in **Lakhs (**Including GST) **.**

The Interested Eligible contractors may participate in the tendering process. The details such as Tender Fee, E.M.D, Tender Documents etc., are available on KPPP from **21.06.2024**.

"KSPH & IDCL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reasons."

Note : Henceforth any changes / modifications in the tender will be updated only on KPPP.

DIPR/CP/RO414/AAPL/2024-25 **Sd/- Executive Engineer – Contracts**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No:SEE/EE/Tr/W&M/DVG/AEE-1/F-114/24-25/Cys-04 Date: 18.06.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPPP mode only)

E-Tenders are invited in the prescribed form from Reputed Electrical Contractor possessing Super Grade Electrical Contractor License for the following works.

(1) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/SEE/W&M/DVG/EE/AEE-1/24-25/68/Call-3 Dated:30.05.2024. Name of the work: **Providing 2 Nos. Additional 11KV PC VCB breakers at 66/11 KV MUSS Sokke in 400KV GI/AI Station Division, KPTCL, Hiremallanahole in PTK Basis.**

(2) Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/SEE/W&M/DVG/EE/AEE-1/24-25/79/Call-5 Dated:07.06.2024. Name of the work: **Provision of additional 1 number of 11KV PC VCB for the load bifurcation of F8-MG Halli IP feeder at 66/11 KV MUSS Chilur in 220KV R/S Benkikere Division, KPTCL, Channagiri.**

Tenders will be accepted through Karnataka Public Procurement Mode only. For further details prospective bidders are advised to log on to website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** hyerlink "E Procurement KPTCL" to participate in karnataka Public procurement portal **on or after 19.06.2024**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL,
Near Stadium, Hadadi Road, Davanagere.

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA FOREST DEPARTMENT
HALIYAL DIVISION, HALIYAL

AS PER GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION No. FEE./168/FDP 2017, BANGALORE DATED: 14-11-2017.
AS PER GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION No. FEE./168/FDP 2017, BANGALORE DATED:27-02-2018.
AS PER APCCF (FRM) BENGALURU OFFICE LETTER NO APCCF (FRM)/B3/SALES/CR-06/2022-23. DATE: -03-06-2024

KARNATAKA FOREST CODE, 1976
APPENDIX XVIII A (Rule 64)
Detailed Notification for e-Tender cum Auction of Timber and Other Forest Produce in GTD Dandeli, Bhagawati, Jagalbet and Kulgi Depot of Haliyal Division, Haliyal

No: B5/Sale/July-2024/MSTC/CR- 23/2024-25 Date: 05-06-2024

It is hereby notified for the general information of the public that, Timber and other forest produce stocked and lotted in the **GTD Dandeli, Bhagawati, And Kulgi,** Government Timber Depots of **Haliyal Division Haliyal** will be sold through the public e-tender cum auction method in one or more sessions from **02-07-2024 to 05-07-2024 and 08-07-2024 to 09-07-2024 (All Four Sessions) and 10-07-2024, (I & II Sessions) GTD Dandeli Depot, 11-07-2024 (All Four Sessions) and 12-07-2024 (I & II Sessions) in Bhagawati Depot, and 15-07-2024 (All Four Sessions)** in Kulagi Depot till the bidding for all lots is completed. The Sale Conducting Officer will be the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Haliyal Division Haliyal.

For any Clarifications, you can contact:
Assistant Conservator of Forests, Govt. Timber Depot, Dandeli:
acfgtd.dandeli@gmail.com Phone No: 08284-231237
Range Forest Officer, Virnoli (Kulgi Depot):
virnolirfo96@gmail.com Phone No: 08284-258050
Range Forest Officer, Bhagawati:
bgtirfo97@gmail.com Phone No: 08284-267818
Range Forest Officer, Jagalbet:
rfojbt93@gmail.com Phone No: 08383-252767
Deputy Conservator of Forests, Haliyal:
dcfhalyal@gmail.co Phone No: 08284-220128
Sri. Damodhar, Manager, MSTC Limited Bangalore Mob No: 9841002253

Sd/- (Prashant kumar K.C., IFS.)
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Haliyal Division, Haliyal.

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/52/24-25 Dt.18.06.2024

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BACKWARD CLASS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT, KOLAR DISTRICRT,

E.T.C.M HOSPITAL FRONT, BANGARPET ROAD, KOLARMMA LAKE, 5TH WARD, KURUBARPETE, KOLAR-563 101
Phone:08152-222336, Email:dobcmkolar@gmail.com

No: DBCDKO/O.S/C.R-19/2024-25 DATE:15.06.2024

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Backward Classes Welfare Department, Kolar district invites the e-Procurement tender for various posts like data entry operator at Taluk backward classes welfare office and cooks, kitchen servant, night watchmen/watchmen, nurse, housekeeping staff, F.D.A, peon etc at pre metric and post metric hostels and residential schools of Backward Classes Welfare department through outsource agency. Interested persons can participate in tender process through e-Procurement **Website:https://KPPP.karnataka.gov.in (Two Covered system) Calendar of Events: (1)** Tender notification No & Date No: DBCDKO/O.S/C.R-19/2024-25 DATE:15.06.2024. **(2)** Estimated amount of tender **Rs: 4,85,46,770/-. (3)** Total amount for **E.M.D Rs : 7,28,202/-. (4)** Date of Submission for particulars regarding E-portal tender **Date: 15.06.2024. (5)** Date and venue of pre-bid Meeting **Date: 01.07.2024. 11.00 A.M** O/o Deputy Director, Backward Classes welfare dept. Kolar District. **(6)** Last date and time of Submission E-portal tender:16.08.2024. Tender information may be taken through E-Procurment portal. Tender documents to be submitted through online **from:15.06.2024 to 16.08.2024, 5.00 pm.** For more details can be taken from this office during office hours and also any other details login to website: **Website:https://KPPP.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
(Somashekhara.Y)
Deputy Director
Backward Classes Welfare Department
Kolar District, Kolar

DIPR/KOLAR/RO:31/KSMCA/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF KARANATAKA
Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department. Office of the Executive Engineer Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development epartment Division Koppal. Phone & Fax No : 08539-220054 email: eemidnkst@rediffmail.com

No:EE/MI&GWDD/Koppal/PB/TP/2024-25/1980
Dated: 18.06.2024

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers registered civil contractors as per standard bid documents from KW-3 on E-procurement portal for 5 no of tender works pertaining to Raichur district. The amount put to tender for the above mentioned work are in the range of 98.8 Lakhs to 99.00 lakhs. The tenderers may submit tenders for the mentioned work through E-procurement portal only. **Two cover** tender procedure as per rule 28 of the KTTP act shall be followed.

For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours and all information regarding tenders can be had from website http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address on or after 19-06-2024. Last date & time for receipt of tender is 27-06-2024 time 17.30 hours, Date & time for opening of technical bid 29-06-2024 time 11.00 hours, date and time for opening of financial bid 01-07-2024 time 11.00 hours (If technical bid sanction is accorded by the competent authority).

Sd/-Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development, Department Division Koppal.
DIPR/Koppal/55/KSMCA/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer(QA/QC) Division,
RR Nagara, Room No.101, Annex-3 Building,
BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002.

No: EE(QA/QC)/RRN/TEND/17/24-25 Date: 18.06.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Only Through e-Procurement System)

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Quality Assurance/Quality Control Division invites Request for Proposal from interested persons/firms those **who have done similar type of work** for **Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality Control (PMC)** for the mentioned below works through e-Procurement system by the Executive Engineer QA/QC, RR Nagara Zone BBMP.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	EMD Amount (in Rs.)	Time Period
1	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality Control for the "Comprehensive development Works and other Infrastructure works at D Group Layout, Hosahalli, Vidyamanya-nagara and surrounding areas in Doddabidarakallu Sub Division, Yeshwanthapura Constituency".	25,000/-	Till completion of the Project
2	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality Control for the "Comprehensive development Works in KHB Colony and Surrounding areas in Ward No.159".	25,000/-	Till completion of the Project
3	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality Control for the "Providing and Fixing of Machineries and Additional Civil Works for Dialysis Center in Ward No.28 Herohalli".	5,000/-	Till completion of the Project
4	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality Control for the "Developments of Roads and Drains in 110 Village limit at Ward No.33 Hemmigepura".	7,500/-	Till completion of the Project

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender Documents may be downloaded through E-Portal from: **21.06.2024 onwards.** (2) Pre-bid meeting: **27.06.2024 at 11:00 a.m.** at Office of the Executive Engineer(QA/QC), Room No.101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002. (3) Last date & time for receipt of Tenders: **29.06.2024 upto 4:00 p.m.** (4) Opening of Technical bid: **01.07.2024 at 4:30 p.m.** (5) Validity of Tenders: 90 days from last date of receipts of Tender.

Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or visit e-Procurement portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, (QA/QC) Division,
RR Nagara Zone, BBMP

TOWN MUNCIPAL OFFICE, MAGADI

Phone : 080 -2774 5221, Fax : 080-2774 5199.
E-mail : tmc_2007magadi@yahoo.co.in, Web : www.magaditown.gov.in

No. : T.M.C./MGD/JE/CR/02/2024-25 **Date : 15-06-2024**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Chief officer TMC, Magadi, Ramanagara District invites Bid Form Eligible Bidder to carry out various Development works under 15th Financial (Untied) for the year 2024-25, SFC (Untied) for the year 2024-25 and 24.10%, 7.25% and 5% scheme of the Municipal Fund for the year 2023-24 (SFC) under the jurisdiction of **Magadi Municipality, Swachh Bharat Mission Scheme.**

1) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT18616, Rs. 1.35 L, EMD : Rs. 332/- (Reservation : General), 2) DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT18615, Rs. 2.88 L, EMD : Rs. 7,200/- (Reservation : General), 3) DMA/ 2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT18613, Rs. 1.00 L, EMD : Rs. 250/- (Reservation : General), 4) DMA/2024-25/ RD/WORK_INDENT18612, Rs. 1.62 L, EMD : Rs. 4050/-, (Reservation : General), 5) DMA/2024-25/QW/WORK_INDENT 18611, Rs. 0.30 L, EMD : Rs. 625/- (Reservation : ST), 6) DMA/ 2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT18610, Rs. 1.50 L, EMD : Rs. 1875/- (Reservation : SC), 7) DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT18609, 0.70 L, EMD : Rs. 1750/-, (Reservation : General), 8) DMA/2024-25/ OW/WORK_INDENT 18608, Rs. 1.71 L, EMD : Rs. 4275/-, (Reservation: General), 9) DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT 17353, Rs. 78.30 L, EMD : Rs. 1,57,000/-, (Reservation : General), 10) DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT17850/CALL-2, Rs. 4.12 L, EMD : Rs. 10,300/-, (Reservation: General), 11) DMA/2024-25/ OW/WORK_INDENT18809, Rs. 4.20 L, EMD : Rs. 10,500/-, (Reservation : General), 12) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT 18807, Rs. 15.72 L, EMD : Rs. 39,300/-, (Reservation: General), 13) DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT18938, Rs. 39.60 L, EMD : Rs. 39,600/-, (Reservation: SC).

As per Karnataka Public Procurement Transparency Ordinance 1999 and Rules 2000, online tenders are invited from eligible contractors registered with Karnataka Public Works Department, and e-Procurement Cell, Bangalore, and interested eligible contractors / agencies may submit their bids through e-Procurement. **Visit : www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** The tender shall be submitted online as per KW - I rules on portal on the dates specified below. Tender details and announcement can be viewed at **District Tender Bulletin, District Urban Development Cell, Ramanagara, Municipal Magadi Office notice board, www.magaditown.mrc.gov.in**

Last date for Submission of Tender for works through e-Procurement Portal : 25-06-2024 at 5.30 p.m. Date of opening of Bids through e-Procurement Portal : 27-06-2024 at 11.30 a.m. And Sl.No. 9 Technical Bid Opening Date : 27-06-2024, 11.30 a.m. And Financial Bid will be Opened on : 29-06-2024, 11.30 a.m.

Sd/- Administrative Officer, Municipal, Magadi. **Sd/- Chief Officer, Municipal, Magadi.**

DIPR/Ramanagar/53/Manipal/2024-25

High Court permits BTC to conduct horse races and betting activities

HC stays government's June 6 decision of denying licence for these activities while terming it as 'wholly illegal, arbitrary, irrational, and unreasonable'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka HC has permitted BTC to conduct on-course and off-course racing and betting activities as per the schedule submitted to the government along with its application seeking licence. FILE PHOTO

Observing that the State government "*prima facie* acted in an irrational, illegal, arbitrary and unreasonable manner" in refusing to grant licence to Bangalore Turf Club (BTC) to conduct racing and betting activities, the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday permitted the BTC to conduct on-course, off-course horse racing and betting activities by adhering to laws.

The Court also stayed the June 6 decision of the government in rejecting the application filed by the BTC seeking licence to conduct racing and betting activities for the racing season 2024-25. However, the Court gave liberty to the government to monitor, supervise and regulate these activities

Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the interim order on the petitions filed by the BTC, the Karnataka Racehorse Owners' Association, Karnataka Trainers' Association, Jokeys Association of India and others, who had questioned the legality of the decision of halting all racing activities.

Horses too will suffer

"The entire racing and betting activities of the BTC, which was hitherto being carried on continuously and uninterruptedly for decades, has now come to a grinding halt, thereby resulting in irreparable injury and hardship not only to the BTC, racehorse owners, trainers but also to the race horses," the Court observed. While pointing out that lying idle without their regular racing activity would cause ailments, diseases etc., to the race horses, the Court said all these aspects are sufficient to indicate that the balance of convenience is in favour of the petitioners allowing racing activities.

Analysis of allegations

While analysing the reasons - illegalities like benami transactions, non-deposit of collection of money in cash, non-deposit of GST from punters, permitting unlicensed bookmakers and punters in carrying on betting activity, loss of ₹296 crores by way of tax evasion, chargesheet filed by against bookmakers, etc., – cited by the government for denying licence to the BTC, the Court *prima facie* found that these reasons have no nexus for denying racing and betting activities as per the provisions of the Mysore Race Course Licensing Act, 1952, and Mysore Race Course Licensing Rules, 1952. As the government banked upon the chargesheet filed by the Central Crime Branch (CCB) sleuths against some bookmakers and two persons associated with the BTC for denying licence, the Court said that the Act and the rules do not provide for any nexus or connection between grant of licence and the alleged illegal activities of the bookmakers and criminal cases pending against them, and hence it could not have been made basis for refusal to grant of licence to the BTC .

Nominees

"The material on record indicates that the Managing Committee of the BTC comprised of two State government nominees – Atheeq L.K., Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, and B. Dayananda, Commissioner of Police, as of September 27, 2023, when Arvind Raghavan was unanimously elected as Chairman of the BTC in the presence of the aforesaid two State nominees. Consequently, the mere arraigning of the said Chairman along with one paid employee as accused in the criminal proceedings also could not have been construed or treated as either valid or sufficient and justifiable ground for the State to refuse the grant of licence in favour of the BTC," the Court observed.

Noticing that BTC has not been arraigned as an accused in the chargesheet, the Court said that the Government could not have relied upon the criminal proceedings to deny licence while pointing out that the Government itself had continuously granted licence even when some criminal case was initiated against certain bookmakers back in 2019.

Also, the Court noted that the Government had granted licence till March, 2024, even though the CCB had launched the recent criminal proceedings against bookies in January, 2024. The pendency of the said criminal proceedings does not operate as a disqualification for grant of license in favour of the BTC, the Court said.

The Court will take up the petitions for further hearing after four weeks.

₹1 lakh for each taluk to celebrate Kempe Gowda Jayanti: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday said ₹1 lakh would be allocated to each taluk to celebrate Kempe Gowda Jayanti on June 27.

Speaking to reporters after a preparatory meeting on Kempe Gowda Jayanti celebrations, he said, "Each taluk will be given ₹1 lakh to celebrate Kempe Gowda Jayanti. Each Assembly constituency would be allocated ₹1 lakh to conduct symposiums on Kempe Gowda for school students."

"₹20,000 for cultural activities and ₹20,000 for taluk centres is given. An additional amount of ₹1 lakh would be given to each taluk. An amount of ₹50,000 was given to district headquarters to conduct Kempe Gowda Jayanti, we are thinking of increasing that amount," he said.

"It has been decided to conduct 515th Jayanti of Kempe Gowda either on Palace Grounds or another venue on June 27. Like every year, a parade of torch lights would come from all directions of Bengaluru, including Huliyurudurga, Magadi, Avathi," he said.

Selection Committee

He said a selection committee under the leadership of B.L. Shankar has been formed to select achievers for the Kempe Gowda award.

The Kannada and Culture department, BDA, and BBMP would give the Kempe Gowda awards collectively.

"We have prepared a report to develop Kempe Gowda's tomb and fort. It will be developed as a tourist spot. Ten acres have been allotted to develop Kempe Gowda's birthplace in Devanahalli. Five acres have been sanctioned near Summanahalli to set up the office of Kempe Gowda Authority. Groundbreaking ceremony for the office would be done on the Jayanti day," he said.

Two arrested for robbing security guards

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Banaswadi police arrested two robbers who had allegedly abducted two security guards and robbed them.

Two security guards, both hailing from Assam, were going on their bike at around 12.30 a.m. on Outer Ring Road on June 9, when two men obstructed their bike, threatened them with lethal weapons, and abducted them, said the police. The security guard duo was taken to a nearby under-construction building, robbed of their mobile phones and other valuables, including the bike, and the robbers fled from the scene.

Based on the victim's complaint and CCTV footage, Banaswadi police said they had arrested two youths for the crime and recovered ₹1.6 lakh worth of valuables, including the bike they had stolen.

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221

E-Open Tender Notice No.:- S/RWP/E/2024-25/11 dated: 14.06.2024, Principal Chief Materials Manager/Rail Wheel Plant, Bela for and on behalf of the **President of India** invites **online "e-Open Tender"**, through Indian Railways E-Procurement Website **www.ireps.gov.in**, for supply of following Stores item at RWP/Bela. The closing time of all tenders is 14:00 hrs., **SN :** 1, **Tender No. :** 01241137, **Short Description of item :** Cast Iron Slag Pot, **Quantity :** 06 Nos., **Date of Tender Closing/Opening :** 15.07.2024, **SN :** 2, **Tender No. :** 01245042B, **Short Description of item :** Feston Cable, **Quantity :** 2400 MTR, **Date of Tender Closing/Opening :** 15.07.2024, 1. Website address, on which full tender details can be seen and downloaded from, is **www.ireps.gov.in**. 2. The prospective firms / bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with the above website for updates including **Addendum/ Corrigendum/ Cancellation** with respect to the above tender. However, this information will also be invariably published in the all concerned newspapers.

For PCMM/RWP/Bela
RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2024-25/31

To advertise for
Real Estate Property advertisements
(every Saturday Property Plus special supplement)
Kindly contact
D Jason - 9620207330 / Basavaraj - 9448364925
or mail your enquiry to
jason.d@thehindu.co.in / basavaraju.c@thehindu.co.in
THE HINDU

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
ASC CENTRE & COLLEGE, AGRAM - POST, BANGALORE-560007
Phone: 080 25550677, Website: www.apsasc.edu.in
Tender Notice
Refer our AD published in "The Hindu", page 2 dated 06 Jun 2024. Add to read :-
Sealed quotations are invited for **painting, construction of over head roof shelter for basketball ground and construction of 2 x classrooms at Army Public School ASC Centre & College.** Tender Enquiry/Form to be collected from school office after payment of Rs.500/- for each project (DD in favour of APS ASC C&C). Filled tender form is to reach school office by 28 Jun 2024 at 1130 AM.
Presiding Officer / Member 1
For School Management

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to bring to the NOTICE of the General Public that **Shri. VILASAREDDY,** aged about 75 years, s/o. Late. Doddaramareddy, R/at No. 85, Near Government School, Rayasandra Village, Huskur Post, Anekal Taluk, BANGALORE 560 099 is the full and absolute owner of Site No. 74 of Naganathapura Village, Bangalore South Taluk, which is morefully described in the schedule below, having acquired the same from his previous owner/Praveen R under Sale Deed dated 30/10/2023 registered as Document No. BGR-1-07513/2023-24 of Book I in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Begur, Bangalore.
It is notified to the General Public that the earlier Sale Deed/s viz., **(i)** Absolute Sale Deed dated 28/10/2002 executed by Shabeer Khan in favour of K.N. Prema registered as Document No. 19488/2002-03 of Book I stored in C.D. No. 88 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk and **(ii)** Absolute Sale Deed dated 28/09/2020 executed by K.N. Prema in favour of Praveen R registered as Document No. BMH-1-02960/2020-21 of Book I stored in C.D. No. BMHD 1244 in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Bommanahalli, Bangalore was lost. A Police complaint in this regard was also lodged with Jurisdictional Police/Bangalore City vide Lost Report No. 1097132/2024 dated 13/06/2024. It is hereby requested that if any person/s comes across or finds the same, he/she/they are requested to hand over the same to the below mentioned address and they will be compensated accordingly.
The General Public is hereby further cautioned that if anybody deals with the Schedule Property with any person/s based on the misplaced/lost document mentioned above, it is at their own risk and cost and such person/s will not derive any title over the Schedule Property and in such an event they have no claim of whatsoever nature against Vilasareddy nor the Schedule Property.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of Property bearing **Site No. 74,** Khatha No. 22/1 BBMP Property No. 22/1/74, situated at **NAGANATHAPURA VILLAGE, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 30 feet, in all measuring **1500 square feet** & bounded on the: -
East by : Road;
West by : Private Property;
North by : Site No. 75 &
South by : Site No. 73:
Shri. G.N. HARISH, Advocate,
Office at No. 312, Ground Floor, 21st 'A' Cross, VI Block, Jayanagar, BANGALORE - 560 070

Employees' State Insurance Corporation
(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
MEDICAL COLLEGE, PGIMSR & HOSPITAL
Sedam Road, Kalaburagi, Karnataka - 585 106
Ph: 08472-265546/47/48, E mail: deanmc-gb.kar@esic.nic.in
E.S.I.C.
NOTICE
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR ENGAGEMENT ON CONTRACT BASIS FOR THE POST OF PROFESSOR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SENIOR RESIDENT & PART TIME SUPER SPECIALIST
Walk-in-Interview for engagement on contract basis for the post of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor **(One Year/ Three Year),** Senior Resident **(One Year)** & Part Time Super Specialist **(One Year)** on **20.06.2024 (Document Verification) & 21.06.2024 (Walk-in-Interview)** will be conducted at ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Kalaburagi. For further details, please visit our website: **www.esic.nic.in/recruitment.**
Sd/-
Dean

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore-560 001
CASE NO: O.A. No. 1371/2022
ICICI Bank Limited ...Applicant
And
Mr.Hemanth Jayanth Bet & Another ...Defendants
To,
1. Mr. Hemanth Jayanth Bet, Aged About 44 Years. S/o. Jayant Sudarshan Bet, No-A-616, May Flower Block, Brigade Millenium Signal, JP Nagarm 7th Phase, Wood Rose Club, Bengaluru South-560 078.
Also At: Royal Lake Front Residency, Phase 1, Kothanur, Benglauru-560078,
2. Gravan Pvt. Ltd., No.46, 4th Cross, Gauravnagar, 12th Main, Near Shiva Temple 7th Phase, JP Nagar, Bangalore-560078
Summons issued to Defendants Under Rule 23 (VIII) of Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules of 1993 By Way of Paper Publication
Whereas, the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions, Act. 1993, against the above defendants for the recovery of sum of Rs.23,98,823,61/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Ninety Eight Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Three Rupees and Sixty One Paisa only) amount together with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs.
before the Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly instructed in support of their defence to show cause on 03/09/2024 at 10:30 a.m. as why the relief's prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this day 27/05/2024
BY THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL
Sd/- REGISTRAR
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-2, BANGALORE

THE HINDU GROUP
THE HINDU
POWERPLAY
T20 TRIVIA QUIZ
Turn to the sports pages to participate in today's quiz
Yesterday's winners:
1. Sumanta Choudhury, Navi Mumbai
2. Sanjoy Konar, Bangalore
3. S.V. Manisundaram, Chennai

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to notify the General Public that my Client has entered in to an Agreement of Sale for purchase of Residential Site/property more fully described in the Schedule hereunder from **SRI.MOHAN N. REDDY,** Aged about 55 years, S/o Sri. Narayana Reddy, residing at No.9, 1st Cross, Kodihalli Main Road, Old Airport Road, Opp: ABF Apartment HAL 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560 008. If any person/s has/have any right, title, interest or claim on the below mentioned Schedule Property, they may file their objections with the undersigned along with documentary proof **WITHIN 15 (FIFTEEN) DAYS** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which my Client will proceed to complete the sale transaction as the same is free from all encumbrances/ claims. Any objections received thereafter shall not be entertained/ considered.
SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the Property being BDA Site bearing **No.3007 (in Sy.No.18/2 of Challaghatta Village),** Measuring East to West: **(14.20+16.40)/2 Mtrs.** and North to South: **18.00 Mtrs.** totally measuring **275.40 Square meters** in the layout formed **by Bangalore Development Authority, at Sector "I", 5th Block of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, Bangalore,** presently bearing Property ID No. **6000074595,** and bounded on :
East by : Site No.3006
West by : Road
North by : Site No.2985
South by : Road
(U.L.SOMAPPA) Advocate & Notary
 # 708/41, Upstairs, Sree Ramanjaneya Road Srinagar, Bangalore-560050.
(M) 94480 50108, 98806 14954
Bangalore Date : 18-06-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General Public are hereby informed that our Client intends to buy the below mentioned **"Schedule Property"** from **Smt.RAMANI.A .KUMAR** W/o.Late.Mr.K.Arun Kumar aged about 63 years, Residing at No.725/A, Arkavathy Layout, 18th BLK, Horamavu Po, Bengaluru-560043. Any person/s, entity, firms, Societies, Institutions (Corporate or otherwise) claiming to have any right, title, interest, benefit, claim or demand in, or to, the Schedule Property and/or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, gift, lease, tenancy, license, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, family arrangement/ settlement, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, development rights, order/ decree / judgment of any court, agreement/s or otherwise howsoever, to the Schedule Property shall file his/her/its/their claim/objection/s together with true copies of all documentary proof in support thereof, to the undersigned, at the address given below, within **21 (Twenty One) days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, our client/s will complete the sale transaction without any reference or regard to any such purported claim or interest, which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the **Site Bearing No.646,** formed in Sy.No.16 of **Byrathi Khane Village, now 18th Block, Arkavathy Layout, Bengaluru** formed by the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) measuring East to West 09.00 meter and North to South 12.00 meter totally measuring **108.00 Square meters** bounded on:
On East : Site bearing No.645; On West : Site bearing No.647; On North : Site bearing No.633; On South : 9 Meter Wide Road;
S.M. Dayanand Patil,
Patil Law Chambers, Advocates,
No. 12/4, 1st Floor, Railway Parallel Road, Neharu Nagara, Bangalore-560020
09845092283
Date: 18.06.2024 Bangalore

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On East : Site bearing No.645; On West : Site bearing No.647; On North : Site bearing No.633; On South : 9 Meter Wide Road;
S.M. Dayanand Patil,
Patil Law Chambers, Advocates,
No. 12/4, 1st Floor, Railway Parallel Road, Neharu Nagara, Bangalore-560020
09845092283
Date: 18.06.2024 Bangalore

IDEMI
Organized by IDEMI Mumbai, Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India
Government Certificate Course On
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT
Course Time-10.30AM to 5 PM Course Date-22,23 June 2024
Venue- IDEMI EXTENSION CENTER Bangaluru
c/o MSME DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE ,WEST OF CHORD RD,INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, RAJAJINAGAR,BENGALURU,KARNATAKA 560010
Email: training@idemi.org Website: www.idemi.org
Contents: Total Quality Management & WHO Standards, Staff Patient Relationship & Communication in Hospitals, 7p's of Hospital Services, NABH Accreditations, Consent in Patient care and its Medico-Legal implications, Medico Legal issues, Various Liability in Healthcare, Laws in Healthcare - snapshot, Safety Management in Hospitals
Course Fees-4000/-+18 % GST (include lunch & tea) | Technical Detail No.8142416666
For Doctors, Hospital Staff, Management sector and other interested candidates
After completion Government certificate will be issued.
QR Code for Registration and Payment:-
Contact-9403566219,9270076724,9019870803,9481236511

Government of Jharkhand
Rural Works Department
JHARKHAND STATE RURAL ROADS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (JSRRDA)
3rd Floor, F.F.P. Building, Dhurwa, Ranchi 834004
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
(National Competitive Bidding Through e-Procurement)
eTender No.- 03/ 2024-25-Ranchi, Dated: 18.06.2024
The undersigned on behalf of Government of Jharkhand invites item rate bids through e-Procurement from the eligible bidders registered* in appropriate class with any State/Central Government/State /Central Government Organization for construction and maintenance for five years of the works (List of schemes shall be displayed in the website pmgsytendersjhr.gov.in) of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY) of Phase XIV (Bach-II, 2016-17).

Sr. No.	Package ID	District Name	Block name	WORK NAME	Length (in KM)	Cost of Const. and Maint. (in Lakh)	Earnest Money (in Lakh)	Time Period
1.	JH-XIV-RP-PAK-06	Pakur	Pakur	Remaining work of L040-Srirampur to Kasiadanga	3.50	201.92	4.09	09 Months

The bid should be submitted online in the website **pmgsytendersjhr.gov.in**. The bidders should have valid Digital Signature Certificate for online submission of bid.
Details of bid submission is as under:

Procurement Officer	Place of Opening	Availability of tender (on-line) for bidding		Date & time of opening (on-line) of tender	
		From	To	Technical bid	Financial bid
1	2	3	4	8	9
Chief Engineer, JSRRDA, Ranchi	Chief Engineer, JSRRDA, Ranchi	**20.06.2024 at 10.00 AM**	**08.07.2024 upto 5.00 PM**	**08.07.2024 at 05.30 PM**	To be informed later

** Non-registered bidders may also submit bid, however the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authority before signing the contract.*
*** Cost may change.*
Note :- 1. Amount of Bid Security should be taken as mentioned in the Bid Data Sheet of the Bidding Document.
2. Cost of Bid Document (Rs. 10000) and Bid Security (as mentioned in the Bid Data Sheet) shall be deposited **online** in form as mentioned in Bid Data Sheet failing which the bid will be treated non responsive and action shall be taken as per Sec. 2 of ITB clause 12.2 (d).
3. In case, it is found, even after the award of work that the bidder has submitted/ uploaded any false/erroneous/fraudulent statement/document, he/she is liable for blacklisting and forfeiture of Bid Security.
4. Bidders must submit GST registration certificate without which bid is liable to be rejected.
5. Bidders whose names appear in the Debar/blacklist of RWD or any department of GoJ/GoI (including JSRRDA) shall not be allowed to participate in the above bids.
6. Bids submitted by bidders, who have long pending ATR(s) / made inordinate delay in execution of earlier allotted construction/ maintenance works of PMGSY, may be rejected summarily.
7. In case of any discrepancy/dispute about units in BOQ, units as mentioned in Current SOR on which BOQ has been prepared shall prevail.
8. Participating bidders are free to submit grievances, if any, against the decision of technical evaluation within five days from the date of uploading of decision of technical evaluation only through email at **jh-ce@pmgsy.nic.in** Grievance submitted after stipulated period shall not be considered.
9. Bidders must have valid registration with Employee Provident Fund organization under EPF and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1952 failing which the bid shall be rejected.
10. Bidders must not quote rate for routine maintenance. The amount for routine maintenance as indicated in the Bill of Quantities must be acceptable to bidders.
11. For unbalanced bids, extra security will be required to be deposited by the bidder at the time of Agreement.
12. The undersigned reserves the right to cancel the tender at any stage without giving prior notice/reason.
All other details can be seen in the bidding document which is available in website **pmgsytendersjhr.gov.in** as per schedule mentioned above.
Engineer-in Chief
Rural Works Department-cum- JSRRDA, Ranchi
PR.NO.326754 Rural Work Department(24-25):D

सी.एस.आई.आर – केन्द्रीय चर्म अनुसंधान संस्थान
CSIR - CENTRAL LEATHER RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद्)
Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)
अडयार, चेन्नै, तमिलनाडु, भारत **Adyar, Chennai – 600 020, TamilNadu**
दूरभाष **Telephone : 91–44 –24437162, 24437420, 24437193** ई–मेल **Email : spo@clri.res.in**
No. Pur/3(00)/1/2024-25 **Date: 14.06.2024**
E-TENDER NOTICE (www.etenders.gov.in)
Director CSIR – CLRI invites bids from manufacturers for concluding rate contract of items listed below through CPP Portal (www.etenders.gov.in).

S.No.	Tender ID & Ref.	Description of Item
1	2024_CSIR_198606_1 & Pur/3(00)/1/2024-25/T-08	Proposal for Rate contract for period of 1 year and extendable by 2 years from manufacturers for supply of the following: 1. Laboratory chemicals including Biochemical, Fine Biochemical, Commercial chemical, Chemicals for Leather processing 2. Glassware 3. Plasticware 4. Other Consumables to CLRI Chennai and its Regional Centre at Ahmedabad, Jalandhar, Kanpur, Kolkata

Tender Closing Date: 16th July, 2024 at 3.00 P.M.(IST)
Tender Opening Date: 17th July, 2024 at 3.00 P.M.(IST)
E-tender document can be downloaded from **www.etenders.gov.in** and is free of cost. **Tenders should be submitted through e-Procurement portal as above only.** The Tender Document can also be seen at our website **www.clri.org** under the heading Tenders.
CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASE
(For & on behalf of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)

Genomes reveal legacies of human sacrifice and medieval epidemics

In the last decade, scientists have used the tools of archaeogenetics and evolutionary medicine to study ancient human burial sites, thus understanding the origins of a bubonic plague pandemic, the evolution of malarial parasites, the spread of the mpox virus, and the historical occurrence of Down's syndrome

Sridhar Sivasubbu
Vinod Scaria

People's practice of burying human remains throughout modern history echoes diverse cultural, spiritual, and social beliefs, and is often considered to be a line in the sands of time between modern and ancient humans. Studying burial practices is a complex endeavour, however, it's hard to say if some prehistoric cave burials are intentional commemorations or remains covered by sediment over time, for example.

Nevertheless, researchers have recorded the practice of burying since the time of our now-extinct Neanderthal ancestors. The oldest intentional modern human burial dates to more than 100,000 years ago, in a cave in Israel. This timeline overlaps with the discovery of the skeletal remains of a roughly three-year-old child buried in Kenya some 80,000 years ago.

Burial practices evolved with advancing human civilisations, with the construction of elaborate mausoleums (that continue to date). The pyramids of Egypt were monumental tombs for the pharaohs; Mughal emperor Shah Jahan commissioned the Taj Mahal in Agra as a mausoleum for his wife. These structures reflect an enduring human desire to honour the dead and remember them.

The handful of well-preserved skeletal remains at ancient burial sites also open a window into the dietary habits, environmental adaptations, microevolutionary characteristics, biological kinship, sex, and genetic history of the population. These sites, spread worldwide, have thus been sites of intense scientific investigation as well. Some famous examples include the Tollund Man Bog Bodies in Denmark and the Thebes Tombs in Egypt.

Studies of these sites have accelerated in the last decade thanks to rapid technological advances in genome sequencing and medical genetics, which have expanded to seed the new fields of archaeogenetics and evolutionary medicine.

Of late, researchers have used the tools and concepts therein to understand the origins of the bubonic plague pandemic, the evolution of malarial parasites, the spread of the mpox virus, and even the occurrence of Down's syndrome in ancient genomes.

The Temple of Kukulcán is the most famous structure at the Chichén Itzá archaeological site. DANIEL SCHWEN (CC BY-SA 4.0)

Ancient Mayan genomes

Chichén Itzá is an ancient Mayan city located in modern-day Mexico. It is known for its grand architecture and iconic ceremonial temples, built around 800-1000 AD. The temples are also infamous for having been the site of human sacrifices made as ritual offerings, and have been under constant archaeological investigation for more than a century.

The offerings were deposited in an enormous sinkhole or a subterranean cistern called the 'Sacred Cenote'. In Mayan culture, these subterranean features were often associated with water and rain. The Sacred Cenote in Chichén Itzá holds the skeletal remains of more than 200 ritually sacrificed individuals, many of them children or adolescents. But we don't know much about the lives of these individuals or their biological relationship (if any) with contemporary inhabitants of the region. European colonists used to believe these children and adolescents were "obtained" by kidnapping, purchase, or exchange of gifts with other nations.

In a recent scientific report published in *Nature*, a team of archaeologists and scientists from Germany, Mexico, Spain, the U.K., and the U.S. sequenced genetic material obtained from the human remains. They read the results along with bio-archeological evidence collected at the site to launch an extensive investigation of the remains of 64 sub-adults from the Sacred Cenote and compared them to modern-day individuals of Mayan origin.

Their studies revealed that all sub-adults in the cenote were genetically male and closely related to each other. The findings go against 20th-century colonial accounts that claimed young women had been sacrificed here.

> Studying burial practices is a complex endeavour. It's hard to say if some prehistoric cave burials are intentional commemorations or remains that have been covered by sediment over time

The study also identified two pairs of monozygotic twins among the remains. Twins held significance in Mayan spiritual life and were linked to the underworld, so their presence in the cenote wasn't surprising. The researchers also used isotopic studies to establish that all the related individuals in the cenote had similar diets, suggesting they all belonged to the same household.

The similarities also suggested they were selected for a specific purpose. It is widely believed that the Mayans organised ritual sacrifices to ensure the bountiful growth of maize and to appease the rain gods.

Genetic studies comparing the skeletal remains with those of present-day Maya people showed the latter are direct genetic descendants of the populations involved in the ritual sacrifices. This long-term continuity within the Mayan population opens doors for additional investigations on microevolutionary studies and genomic adaptations over the years, with implications for the study of population health.

Legacy of colonial epidemics

The ceaseless wars, famines, and epidemics wrought by colonial invaders decimated the Mexican population. Their numbers fell from 10-20 million to 2 million by the end of the 16th century. In this period, diseases such as smallpox, measles, influenza, typhus, typhoid, and enteric fever spread among the people, resulting in a genetic bottleneck. (The rapid decline of a population also shrinks the genetic variations therein. Future populations will be based on this smaller pool, and will thus be at greater risk of disease.) Such events can leave long-lasting genetic footprints in the population. By studying them, researchers may be able to identify genes that have been subjected to genetic selection.

By comparing the ancient and modern genomes from Mexico, the researchers found evidence of positive selection in genes related to immunity, especially those associated with resistance to enteric fever caused by *Salmonella enterica Paratyphi C*, a pathogen serotype previously identified with the 16th century cocoliztli epidemic in Mexico. The study of ancient genomes and their modern counterparts allows us to resolve mysteries, dispel old hypotheses, and gain new insights from the past to light the way for the future.

(The authors are senior consultants at the Vishwanath Cancer Care Foundation, Adjunct Professors at Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur and Dr. DY Patil Medical College, Hospital and Research Center, Pune.)

THE GIST

The oldest modern human burial dates to more than 100,000 years ago, in Israel. This overlaps with the discovery of the buried remains of a three-year-old in Kenya some 80,000 years ago

Skeletal remains at ancient burial sites open a window into the dietary habits, environmental adaptations, microevolutionary characteristics, biological kinship, sex, and genetic history of the population

By comparing ancient and modern genomes from Mexico, researchers found evidence of positive selection in genes related to immunity. The study of genomes helps resolve mysteries, and gain new insights into the past

BIG SHOT

Professor Hong Jin-kee with a bowl containing pink "meaty rice" at the Yonsei University in Seoul on May 21. In a small laboratory in the South Korean capital, a team of scientists is injecting cultured beef cells into individual grains of rice, in a process they hope will revolutionise how the world eats. AFP

QUESTION CORNER

Why clouds go grey before they rain

Q: Why do clouds usually appear white but look grey when they're going to rain?
Vineeth E.K.

A: Scattered water droplets in the clouds are the reason.

When the Sun shines over clouds, water droplets in the latter act like prisms, splitting white sunlight into its component colours. They send these rays of light of different colours (frequencies) flying in different directions at haphazard angles. These rays often manage to recombine because there are several droplets in clouds, all scattering sunlight and creating white light. This is why clouds are white.

But just before clouds are going to rain, the water droplets are swollen. They coalesce to form larger droplets, of a few millimetres or more each. These droplets absorb more light and transmit less to the base of the clouds. As a result, these clouds have a greyish appearance; only their base scatters white light (image) to observers on the ground. However, because enough sunlight illuminates the clouds' upper decks, they continue scattering white light to anyone viewing them from space or from aboard an aeroplane.

Dust scatters white light the same way clouds do for the same reason, in a process called Mie scattering. ROADTRIPWITHRAJ/UNSPLASH

Such scattering phenomena manifest in other ways too. Dust scatters white light the same way clouds do for the same reason, in a process called Mie scattering. It takes place only when the size of the scattering particle is comparable to the wavelength of the light.

- Karthik Vinod, intern with The Hindu

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KSRTC to introduce seater-cum-sleeper buses in State, expand fleet

On June 14, the transport corporation floated a tender to purchase 222-inch buses. According to officials, the buses will be inducted into the fleet within a few months

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Initially, only 30 seater-cum-sleeper buses will be inducted to gauge passenger feedback before adding more to the fleet. FILE PHOTO

A technical committee will evaluate the performance of the new set of buses within a month

As demand for sleeper buses increases following the introduction of the 'Pallakki' service, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has floated a tender to procure 30 seater-cum-sleeper coaches and 70 non-AC sleeper coaches. This marks KSRTC's debut in incorporating seater-cum-sleeper buses into its fleet.

On June 14, KSRTC floated a tender to purchase 222-inch buses.

According to officials, the buses will be inducted into the fleet within a few months.

An official said, "This is the first time we are inducting seater-cum-sleeper buses into our fleet. We have seen such buses being operated by other State-run road transport corporations and a few private operators. Initially, we will induct only 30 such buses to gauge passenger feedback before adding more to our fleet."

The tender documents specify that these buses will undergo a trial run first. A technical committee will evaluate the performance of the buses within a month. If the performance is satisfactory, delivery of the remaining coaches will be approved. If not, KSRTC reserves the right to cancel the remaining order without compensation.

The buses will be equipped with mobile and laptop charging ports, a mobile holder, warm white LED reading lights, a public address system, audio speakers, pillows for passengers, and a rear-view camera to aid the driver.

In October 2023, KSRTC launched 40 non-AC sleeper buses named 'Pallakki', operating on routes covering various destinations from Bengaluru and other regions across Karnataka. These buses cater to destinations located over 500 km away from Bengaluru, facilitating overnight journeys.

KSRTC operates an average of 27.64 lakh kilometres daily with a fleet of 8,113 vehicles, earning ₹13.51 crore per day while serving an average of 32.77 lakh passengers. It ranks fifth among State transport undertakings (STUs) in India by size.

Woman killed by nephew

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A woman was brutally assaulted and killed on the road near her house in Hoskote allegedly by her nephew on Monday night. The deceased has been identified as Chandramma, 40.

According to the police, Chandramma had a family dispute with her nephew Venkatesh, 23, who allegedly beat her up with a wooden plank on the street on Monday night. She suffered a severe head injury and collapsed in a pool of blood on the street, even as Venkatesh fled from the scene.

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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Social Welfare Department
Government of Karnataka
Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
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2024
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Priority for STEM education
50% reservation for the children of following sections:
Children of ex-Devadasi family ■ Children of rag-pickers family ■ Children of graveyard workers ■ Children of families displaced by government projects
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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Indian professionals facing learning barriers: LinkedIn

91 In per cent. A new research by LinkedIn suggests work and family pressure pose as learning barriers for Indian professionals. Many are adopting 'Loud Learning' to overcome these barriers. PTI

The number of States to fill legislative council vacancies

4 Bypolls will be held on July 12 in Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh, to fill five vacancies. Elections to three of the five seats were necessitated due to the resignation of members. PTI

Passengers who arrived at Sealdah by Kanchanjunga Express

850 Scheduled to reach Sealdah at 7:20 PM on Monday, the unaffected coaches began their journey from the accident site. The train had collided with a goods train, resulting in 10 deaths. PTI

The light combat helicopters to be procured by Ministry

156 The Defence Ministry has started the process to procure light combat helicopters from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL). A request for initial tender has been issued by the Ministry. PTI

The number of safety category posts that are vacant in Railways

1.52 in lakh. Out of the around 10 lakh sanctioned posts under the safety category in the Indian Railways, more than 1.5 lakh were vacant. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Does H5N1 pose a threat for humans?

Can the highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 strain spread from cattle to humans? What is the strategy to identify and contain the spread of the virus? What is the concept of 'One Health' and how is Kerala using it to limit the spread of avian influenza?

EXPLAINER

C. Maya

The story so far:

The highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 strain has been affecting cattle across several States in the U.S., and for the first time, three cases of human infection in dairy farm workers were also reported, raising fears of the risks of a wider transmission of this virus from cattle to humans. The districts of Alappuzha, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta in Kerala, where water bodies, migratory birds, fowls and integrated farms form part of the ecosystem, have reported H5N1 outbreaks in 19 places since April. However, the death of crows in large numbers in Alappuzha, and subsequent confirmation of the H5N1 virus in their carcasses have given rise to concerns that the virus could spread far and wide.

How dangerous is it?

Ever since it emerged in 1996, H5N1 has resulted in the mass killing of billions of wild birds as well as fowls. The virus's jump to some 26 mammalian species, especially cattle and the now emerging proof that it can infect humans, has heightened the threat perception that H5N1 could lead to the next global pandemic. Of particular concern are the facts that herd-to-herd transmission of H5N1 is now taking place in the U.S., involving some 12 States and that the virus has been detected in raw milk and in milking machines. According to scientists, the virus lacks changes that would make it better adapted to transmit between people and therefore, the risk to human health remains low. However, the potential for influenza viruses to rapidly evolve and the wide geographic spread of H5N1 signals that more human infections should be expected.

What is the level of risk to humans?

The virus seems to spread from birds/animals to humans who may be closely interacting with these, without adequate personal protection.

All risk evaded: Ducks being killed by the Animal Husbandry Department, in Alappuzha, on April 19. PTI

According to the WHO, between 2003 and April 1, 2024, close to 900 human infections of H5N1 have been reported from 23 countries, of which, more than half were fatal. Even though the risk of human infections from H5N1 is still perceived to be low, this can change rapidly as the virus spreads to more animals, especially cows or domestic mice, which have closer contact with humans. In districts like Alappuzha where water fowls, chicken, dairy cows and humans share the same environment, the opportunities for human infections should be perceived as high.

What are the symptoms of H5N1?

The common symptoms of H5N1 are similar to those of influenza-A illnesses, including respiratory difficulties, fever, cough, sore throat and pneumonia, all of which can potentially worsen, especially in those who are immunocompromised or have underlying conditions. In the U.S., conjuctivitis or pink eye was the only symptom that was reported in one of the farm workers who was infected.

In April itself, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had sent out a health advisory that clinicians should consider the possibility of H5N1 infection in persons who report with respiratory illness or conjunctivitis, if they have had exposure to livestock or dead birds. Early detection and containment of the infection is important to prevent the extensive spread of the virus.

As of now, in Kerala, as only the poultry has been found affected in all outbreaks, the strategy adopted for containment is the mass culling of birds within a certain radius of the reported infection. However, the incident of the mass death of crows has now changed the equation, as it is possible that the infection may have been taken by the crows beyond the current surveillance zone. Continuous surveillance by testing environmental samples – water, faecal matter of birds – as well as Influenza-like illness human samples would be necessary in designated surveillance zones. People who have livestock and birds at home are being advised to wear masks, and the antiviral Tamiflu is being prescribed as prophylaxis to people wherever H5N1 positive cases are found.

What are the necessary precautions?

People should avoid unprotected exposure to infected birds or animals or their contaminated environments. If at all one has been exposed to a possible H5N1-contaminated environment, they should monitor themselves for new respiratory illness symptoms, including conjunctivitis for 10 days and seek proper medical advice. It would be better to ensure that people use only pasteurised milk and poultry meat and eggs should be well-cooked to prevent any possible food-borne transmission of H5N1.

In a recent editorial, *The Lancet*, spoke about the need for a robust and coordinated response to H5N1. It pointed out that the concept of 'One Health', although often acknowledged, is rarely prioritised and operationalised.

Kerala, however, has taken 'One Health' beyond the conceptual framework and the project is currently being implemented as part of the World Bank-aided 'Rebuild Kerala' project in four districts – Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, and Idukki. It has established a community-based disease surveillance network, with 2.5 lakh volunteers trained in the 'One Health' concept in these districts, who will report any unusual events or death of animals/birds in a locality so that early warning and early preventive or control measures can be taken.

THE GIST

- The districts of Alappuzha, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta in Kerala, where water bodies, migratory birds, fowls and integrated farms form part of the ecosystem, have reported H5N1 outbreaks in 19 places since April.
- The virus seems to spread from birds/animals to humans who may be closely interacting with these, without adequate personal protection.
- In a recent editorial, *The Lancet*, spoke about the need for a robust and coordinated response to H5N1. It pointed out that the concept of 'One Health', although often acknowledged, is rarely prioritised and operationalised.

How can Himachal Pradesh fight against forest fires?

What does the State need to do in order to democratise forest management and curtail raging forest fires?

Tikender Singh Panwar

The story so far:

Himachal Pradesh (H.P.) is witnessing widespread forest fires across the region. According to the Himachal Pradesh Forest department, there have been a total of 1,684 forest fires since April 15. These fires have damaged a total of 17,471 hectares of forest land, resulting in significant loss to wildlife. From 2001 to 2023, H.P. has lost 957 hectares of tree cover from fires and 4.37 thousand hectares from all other drivers of loss.

How do forest fires start in the State?

Fires in the Himalayas occur during the pre-monsoon summer period of moisture stress, due to the resultant depletion of snowmelt water. The moisture conditions of the pre-monsoon season, characterised by rainstorms, play a critical role in determining the nature of forest fires. The less moisture there is, the greater the impact of the fires. Human activities such as unattended campfires, discarded cigarettes etc., are also some of the common causes for forest fires.

These fires are also a major source of pollutants, including black carbon, which significantly contribute to glacier melt in the Himalayas and negatively influences the regional climate. The primary causes of these forest fires are faulty forestry practices, and treating forests from a utilitarian perspective, excluding people's participation.

Have the Himalayan forests undergone a transformation?

The Himalayan forests have been systematically transformed over the last two centuries. A crucial watershed moment in Indian forestry began with the construction of railways in the 1850s. Lord Dalhousie's understanding about railway construction was that the railways were to be constructed not just to market British goods but also to serve as an outlet for British capital seeking profitable avenues. Unfortunately, the profitability of Himalayan forests continue to be a driving force. From 1853 to 1910, the construction of around 80,000 kms of railway track led to an assault on forests and the extinction of the customary rights of the people. Between 1869 and 1885, 6.5 million sleepers were made of Deodar, and the area for Chir pines was expanded for timber and resin. Total trees from which resin was tapped between 1910 and 1920 increased from 2,60,000 to 21,35,000. Resin was used for commercial and industrial applications, and its extraction continues to be a major source of production from pine forests. Verrier Elwin, an Oxford scholar and renegade priest, wrote in the early 20th century that State-managed forestry led to the gradual replacement of the Banj oak, a source of fuel, fodder, and leaf manure, with the Chir pine, which was more valued commercially as a source of timber and resin. Ecologically, Banj forests absorb a high content of rainwater, leading to better moisture retention and water springs in the mountains.

Currently, more than 17.8% of the total 37,033 square kilometers of forest area is covered with Chir pine trees in H.P. Chir forests are very vulnerable to forest fires.

What needs to be done?

Democratisation of forests is essential to ensure that people and communities who have lived in and around forests are made part of the forest management process. The rights of the local community have been periodically curtailed, and as a result, when forest fires start, first responders are nowhere to be found.

The traditional forest rights of Himalayan dwellers included the right to extract wood for fuel, timber, fodder, and other activities. H.P. is under Schedule V of the Indian Constitution, which requires community assent for development activities in the region. However, for large projects like hydro power generation, road widening, and four-lane highways, forests are being diverted with ease.

What the Himalayan States now need is to build mixed forestry and remove pine trees; ensure that both scientific and community knowledge converge and forest management is conducted in a participatory manner; implement check dams and other methods to revive water springs; create environmental services at the village level; and articulate their case with the ongoing 16th Finance Commission, seeking help apart from disaster mitigation funds.

Author is former Deputy Mayor, Shimla, and Member, Kerala Urban Commission.

THE GIST

- According to the Himachal Pradesh Forest department, there have been a total of 1,684 forest fires in the State since April 15.
- Democratisation of forests is essential to ensure that people and communities who have lived in and around forests are made part of the forest management process.
- The traditional forest rights of Himalayan dwellers included the right to extract wood for fuel, timber, fodder, and other activities.

After fuel price hike backlash, govt. unlikely to impose user fee on waste management

Sources say as the govt. may also have to conduct the long-pending civic polls, the materialisation of the fee is unlikely

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Ltd. had proposed to levy a ₹200 monthly user fee on the households, but the government had agreed to ₹100. FILE PHOTO

Facing a backlash over fuel prices, the government is unlikely to impose a monthly user fee for collecting waste from households in Bengaluru. Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) had sent the file to the government for implementation of the same.

The BSWML had proposed to levy ₹200 monthly user fee on the households, but the government had agreed for ₹100. This would generate revenue for the BSWML and the company would function independently. Now, the company is at the mercy of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). The BBMP in the budget allocates funds for the functioning of the company that deals with solid and wet waste.

According to sources, the government after increasing fuel prices has come under pressure, leading to a rethink about levying user fee. As the government may also have to conduct the long-pending civic polls, the materialisation of the fee is unlikely, sources pointed out.

An official from the BWSML told *The Hindu* the mood among the officials in the company was upbeat when the government agreed to the proposal, particularly because the company would become independent as the proposal would help generate at least ₹400 crore.

Sources also said the Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar was also keen on the proposal, but his experience with the new property tax system, which was deferred due to resistance from citizens, may lead to a rethink under the present circumstances.

Tusker falls into well, dies in Kodagu

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

A wild tusker fell into an under-construction ring well and met with an agonising death in the early hours of Tuesday at Palangala village in Virajpet taluk of Kodagu district.

The incident took place past midnight and the elephant fell almost 20 feet with it hind portion hitting the ground and gradually sank another 6 to 8 feet before it breathed its last.

DKS hints at hiking water tariff

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar indicated a possible hike in the monthly water charges due to financial strains faced by the Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB).

In a statement on Tuesday, Mr. Shivakumar highlighted that water tariffs in Bengaluru have not been raised in the past 14 years, which has led to significant financial challenges for the BWSSB.

"It has become imperative to increase the water tariff as the water board is not able to pay the electricity bill. It is also difficult to pay the salaries of the staff," he said

Mr. Shivakumar underscored the necessity of the tariff hike by comparing it to the rising costs of other essential goods.

"A gas cylinder - which was costing ₹400 - now costs ₹1,000. Petrol price has gone up from ₹75 to over ₹100. Should the water tariff be increased or not?" he questioned.

Growing demand

With the city's growing demand for drinking water and the financial instability of BWSSB, the potential increase in water charges appears imminent.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue June 19, Wednesday), the following articles are available:

- Does H5N1 pose a threat for humans?
  bit.ly/avianfluexp
- Genomes reveal legacies of human sacrifice
  bit.ly/genomerevelation

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 19	
RISE 05:55	SET 18:48
RISE 16:25	SET 03:16
THURSDAY, JUN. 20	
RISE 05:55	SET 18:48
RISE 17:22	SET 04:02
FRIDAY, JUN. 21	
RISE 05:55	SET 18:48
RISE 18:21	SET 04:53

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	31	21
Bengaluru	30	22

Bengaluru Today
30°C Morning will be pleasant Day will be slight warm and humid. Spell of light rain and thundershower is likely to occur. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be slight warm and humid Night will be pleasant Spell of light rain and thundershower with gusty winds may occur.

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THE HINDU
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Two gangs of seven robbers arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Hennur police have cracked two recent robberies and arrested two gangs of seven robbers.

A gang of four robbers had allegedly barged into a house in Pillanna Layout recently, brandished lethal weapons, snatched the mobile phones of three occupants of the house, and fled from the scene. Hennur police have arrested a gang of four in the case and recovered two bikes and five mobile phones from them. In another case, police busted a gang of three mobile snatchers who had allegedly snatched multiple phones from commuters in Hennur area, based on the CCTV footage of these incidents. Police have recovered a bike and multiple mobile phones from the arrested.

ಚಾಮುಂಡೇಶ್ವರಿ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಸರಬರಾಜು ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ
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CESC/GM(P)/DGM(P)/AGM-(P-2)/2024-25/5303 **Date:15.06.2024**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

CESC, Mysore invites Short Term Tenders from eligible bidders for Line Materials, T & P, Services & Works as mentioned below:

Line Materials:

Sl. No	Tender Name	Enquiry No/ Date
1	Supply of Star-1 rated 25 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Mysuru Circle.	C2-5700/15-06-2024
2	Supply of Star-1 and Star-2 rated 63 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Mysuru Circle	C2-5701/15-06-2024
3	Supply of Star-1 and Star-2 rated 100 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Mysuru Circle	C2-5702/15-06-2024
4	Supply of Star-2 rated 250 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Mysuru Circle.	C2-5703/15-06-2024
5	Supply of Star-1 rated 25 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Mandya Circle.	C2-5704/15-06-2024
6	Supply of Star-1 and Star-2 rated 63 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Mandya Circle	C2-5705/15-06-2024
7	Supply of Star-1 and Star-2 rated 100 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Mandya Circle	C2-5706/15-06-2024
8	Supply of Star-1 rated 25 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Hassan Circle.	C2-5707/15-06-2024
9	Supply of Star-1 and Star-2 rated 63 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Hassan Circle	C2-5708/15-06-2024
10	Supply of Star-1 and Star-2 rated 100 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Hassan Circle	C2-5709/15-06-2024
11	Supply of Star-1 rated 25 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Chamarajanagara-Kodagu Circle.	C2-5710/15-06-2024
12	Supply of Star-1 and Star-2 rated 63 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Chamarajanagara-Kodagu Circle	C2-5711/15-06-2024
13	Supply of Star-1 and Star-2 rated 100 KVA Distribution Transformer to CESC, Chamarajanagara-Kodagu Circle	C2-5712/15-06-2024
14	Supply of Rabbit ACSR conductor to CESC.	C2-5713/15-06-2024
15	Supply of PSC Pole (200 Kg WL) Clamp - GI to CESC.	C2-5714/15-06-2024
16	Supply of 11kV Ceramic Pin Insulator (Shell only) to CESC.	C2-5715/15-06-2024
17	Supply of No.8 Strain Insulator to CESC.	C2-5716/15-06-2024
18	Supply of HT ST Support 50x8 mm Flat - GI to CESC.	C2-5717/15-06-2024
19	Supply of 11 kV, 45 kN Polymeric Insulator to CESC.	C2-5718/15-06-2024
20	Supply of 1.1KV LT POLYMERIC PIN INSULATORS to CESC.	C2-5719/15-06-2024
21	Supply of HT UG Cable 240 sq mm to CESC.	C2-5720/15-06-2024
	T & P Materials:-	
22	Supply of Rubber Hand gloves 18 kV, SEAMLESS Confirming to ISS to CESC.	C2-5721/15-06-2024
23	Supply of Telescopic Earthing Rods 6 mtr long to CESC.	C2-5722/15-06-2024
24	Supply of Hi-visibility Reflective Rain Wear confirming to ISS for Electrical purpose to CESC.	C2-5723/15-06-2024
25	Supply of Power man Tool Kit(Cutting Plier,Screw Driver, Line Tester,Adjustable Spanner,Nose Plier) to CESC.	C2-5724/15-06-2024
26	Supply of Turbo Cutter to CESC.	C2-5725/15-06-2024
27	Supply of Hydraulic Crimping tool 25 Sq mm to 100 Sq mm to CESC.	C2-5726/15-06-2024
28	Supply of Toyota Innova Hycross Hybrid ZX(O)-INNHA Pear White or equivalent vehicle to CESC	C2-5727/15-06-2024
	Service	
29	Providing Manpower services to all the Offices in CESC jurisdiction for a period of Two years on total turnkey basis.	C2-5685/02-03-2024
	Works	
30	Data entry, Digitization of document & Printing in Offices of CESC.	C2-5699/15-06-2024

The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through e-procurement portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after **20-06-2024**. For clarification contact help desk **+91-8046010000**, **+91-8068948777** or e-mail address **support@eprochelpdesk.com**.

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DIPR/DDMYS-94/KSMCA-72/2024-25 **Sd/- General Manager (Procurement), CESC, Mysuru.**

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, KANTHA Lalith Kumar Chajjed, R/a Flat B 502, Mehta Ambience, Manjunathnagar, Magadi Road, Bangalore-560023 have changed my name to Kantha Chajjed vide affidavit dt: 17.06.2024 sworn before Notary Sumangala Hegde, B'luru.

I, RAJU Jainar, S/o Dharanendra Jainar, R/at No.FF-415, Mars Mount Apt., BSK 3rd Stage, Saptagiri Layout, Hosakerehalli, Bengaluru-560085, have changed my name from Raju Jainar to Raju D Jainar vide affidavit dated 11/06/2024 before Notary Gangaraju.B.N, Bengaluru.

TENDERS

Tender Invitation to Bid for Conveyor System

Notice is hereby given inviting all reputed genuine manufacturers of Conveyor Systems in Tamilnadu & Karnataka to submit their expression of interest to bid for manufacture, supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Screw Conveyor, Vibrating Feeder and Bucket Elevators Systems for an overseas chemical plant project. Interested parties shall submit complete pre-qualification information of their technical capabilities, financial data and past record of experience etc within 15 days from the date of this notification to:
heplchennai@gmail.com

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SAROJAMMA, R/a No.10, 29th Cross, Killari Road, Bangalore-560053 have changed my name to Sarojamma Venkataramaiah vide affidavit dt: 17.06.2024 sworn before Notary Sumangala Hegde, B'luru.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE LXIII ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-64)
O.S. No. 6951/2022
Hg 01/07/2024

Between :
M/s. ICICI Bank Limited, having its registered office at Landmark, Race-Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007, having its head office at and branch office at 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru- 560068 through its authorised representative
Mr. Rohith Ali M. ...Plaintiff
And
Mr. Muthamgari Venu ...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC

Defendant :
Mr. Muthamgari Venu
S/o. Prabhakar Muthamgari, Aged About 33 Years, R/at No. 9 Balaji Layout, Narendra PG For Men, Behind Big Bazar Ambalipura, Bellandur Gate, Near The Hub Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru- 560102.

Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of Rs. 6,37,610.83/- along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the LXIII Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru (C.C.H.-64), in person or by a pleader, on the day of 01/07/2024 at 11:00 AM to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex-Parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this the 11th day of June 2024 at Bangalore.

By order of the Court,
Assistant Registrar,
Hon'ble City Civil Court,
Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar
Vidhii Partners, Advocates,
No. 701, Queens Corner 'A', 3, Queens Road, Bengaluru-01

IN THE COURT OF THE CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-61)
ORIGINAL SUIT NO. 7104 OF 2022

BETWEEN :
ICICI Bank Ltd
A body corporate incorporated and registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 and licensed as a Bank under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 having Registered Office at : "Landmark", Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390007 And having its Regional office at ICICI Bank Ltd., 11th Floor, C-Wing, Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560 001. And represented by its POA Holder, Mr. M Rohit Ali, S/o Ishrath Ali M, Aged about 26 years, ...PLAINTIFF
And :
Mr. Kiran K.
S/o Karunanidhi, Aged about 40 years, R/a No. 8, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, RA Road, Vivekanagara Post, Near Ayan Gym, Ejipura, Bengaluru- 560 047. ...DEFENDANT

Summons/Notice through Paper Publication

To,
Mr. Kiran K.
S/o Karunanidhi, Aged about 40 years, R/a No.8, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, RA Road, Vivekanagara Post, Near Ayan Gym, Ejipura, Bengaluru- 560 047. ...DEFENDANT

WHEREAS the above named Plaintiff has instituted case against you for recovery loan amount ₹ 6,04,311/- (Rupees Six Lakh Four Thousand Three Hundred and Eleven Only) together with interest at the rate 18% p.a. from date of due to till the date of realization.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble City Civil & Session Judge Court, (CCH-61), At Bengaluru, in person or by a advocate/pleader on 23.07.2024 at 11:00 A.M. to answer the questions of the same. Failing which the matter will be heard and determned as "EX-PARTE"

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 10th day of June, 2024.

BY the order of the Court
The Assistant Registrar,
City Civil Court
Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
Mr. K.N. Arvinda Navada
Advocate
No.177/1, (88), 1st Floor, Besides 12th Cross, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bengaluru-560 002

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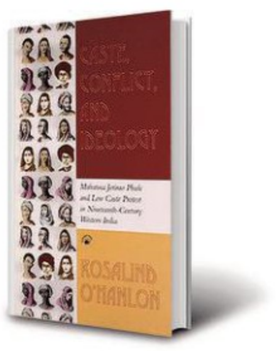
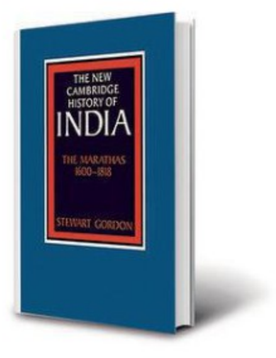
S. SUDARSHAN





How the Maratha, Kunbi identities have changed over the course of history

The crystallisation of the term 'Maratha' probably occurred between 1400 and 1600 C.E. to describe a newly emerging service elite — the chiefs who brought bands of followers to serve the Bahamani kingdom and its five successor states

Shoumojit Banerjee

Since September last year, an agitation for Maratha reservation spearheaded by an emaciated, wraith-like 41-year-old activist Manoj Jarange-Patil spread like bushfire in Maharashtra's arid Marathwada region and has been the cause of deep socio-political rumblings in the State. While the demand for a quota in jobs and education for the economically backward Maratha community members has been ongoing since the 1980s, a series of dramatic hunger strikes by Jarange-Patil (the fourth one was withdrawn last week) over the past 10 months has forcefully foregrounded the issue, vexing the ruling Eknath Shinde-led Mahayuti government.

The Maratha quota agitation has cost the Mahayuti candidates dearly on several parliamentary seats in the Marathwada region, the wellspring of the movement.

Among Jarange-Patil's demands is that Marathas be given reservation under the Kunbi category classed as Other Backward Classes (OBCs), a demand which has predictably aggravated social tensions in the State and especially Marathwada. As a counterpoise, OBC politicos and writers have opposed Marathas eating their share of the reservation pie, arguing that the community is already the politically dominant one in the State and that more than 60% of Maharashtra's Chief Ministers – from Y.B. Chavan to Sharad Pawar to Eknath Shinde – have all been Marathas and that nearly 70% of Maharashtra's 288 legislators belonged to the community.

At a deeper level, this ongoing conflict has prompted introspection of the complex identities of 'Maratha' and 'Kunbi', and their fascinating and politically fraught histories.

On identity formation

Any attempt to understand the meanings of these two charged terms must begin with a study of English civil servant R. E. Enthoven's magisterial three-volume *Tribes and Castes of Bombay* (1922) – a mammoth and enduring classic which is a landmark in Indian anthropology. "There is probably no difference in origin between the landholding and warrior section, the Marathas proper, and cultivators, the Maratha kunbis," said Enthoven, noting the fluidity of the terms.

One of the most scrupulous and closest observers of western Indian society, Enthoven noted that the rise of the Maratha power under the warrior chieftain Shivaji Bhosale in the 17th century had induced the fighting classes and landholders to claim for themselves the Kshatriya rank, which was why they considered themselves superior to Kunbis, who tilled the land.

While observing that Kunbi denoted a status and not a caste and that Marathas and Kunbis are used synonymously in many cases, Enthoven distinguishes between Konkani kunbis who claim neither to be Marathas nor Kshatriyas. It is no wonder that Marathas in the Konkan today vehemently oppose Jarange-Patil's agitation and categorically refuse to accept reservation under the OBC Kunbi category, as they fear becoming déclassé.

But when and how did the term 'Maratha' originate? Rosalind O' Hanlon's now-classic study of the process of identity formation in Maharashtra titled *Caste, Conflict and Ideology* (1985) is an essential masterwork in understanding this concept as well as turning the light on the Maratha-Kunbi cluster of castes.

At the simplest level, 'Maratha' denotes all Marathi speakers and those who had fought under Shivaji Bhosale's banner and later in the 18th Century under the Peshwas until the decline of their power and British paramountcy in 1818 following the Third Anglo-Maratha War. Around this time, to European observers, the term was not caste-specific and all Marathi speakers be it Brahmin priests, soldiers, cultivators, artisans were indiscriminately called 'Marathas.'

Unconsciously, it implied mastery over land and military prowess with early European writers assumed the existence of a strong regional identity focus on their heroic qualities, notes o' Hanlon. And yet, this term was applied in a narrower, caste-specific way. Within the larger complex of Maratha peasant castes, families who called themselves 'Marathas' represented a small social elite, claiming a varna status of Kshatriya appropriate to rulers, while the Kunbis accepted the lower Shudra varna.

The emergence of the term must be understood in the context of Ala-ud-din Khalji's ferocious raids in the Deccan in the 1290s and the eventual extinction of the Marathi-speaking Yadava dynasty that ruled from the fortress-citadel of Devgiri.

In Stewart Gordon's *The Marathas* (1993), part of the New Cambridge History of India series) scholar-travellers like Al-Beruni (1020 C.E.) mention 'Marhat Des' as the people who lived south of the Narmada while Ibn Batuta (in 1340 C.E.) said that the people who lived around Daulatabad were Marathas.

Aspiring to be a Maratha

The crystallisation of the term 'Maratha' probably occurred between 1400 and 1600 C.E. to describe a newly emerging service elite – the chiefs who brought bands of followers to serve the Bahamani kingdom and its five successor states which arose after the kingdom's fragmentation, says Gordon. As certain Maratha families (including the Bhosales) gained prominence for their military service with the Bahamani successor states, their domestic and social practices differed from that of the Kunbis owing to their close association with the Muslim courts of Ahmednagar and Bijapur.

Besides aspiring to a Kshatriya status and being invested with the sacred thread, these families followed the Islamic practice of secluding their women, as well as the habit of eating from a single-dish with their caste-fellows, notes o' Hanlon. These distinctive social practices led to the coining of the term 'Marathmola' (translated as 'ways and practices peculiar to the genuine Maratha'), as given by lexicographer James Molesworth in his classic *Marathi-English dictionary* (1847).

In their striving for an elite status, even Shivaji Bhosale's coronation as 'Chhatrapati' (June 6, 1674) was not without controversy as he had to be declared a 'pure' Kshatriya and admitted formally into the varna of rulers and kings. Strenuous efforts were made to persuade Brahmans and demonstrate the Bhosale family's genealogical linkages with ancient Rajput families like the Sisodias of Udaipur. After Shivaji's death, the later Chhatrapatis after Shahu (Shivaji's grandson) became puppets in the hands of the Brahmin Peshwas who ruled from Pune and expanded the Maratha power. A pivotal moment came after Bajirao II's defeat of Elphinstone and East India Company's forces, which installed Pratapsinh Bhosale, the nominal successor of the House of Shivaji, as the Chhatrapati in Satara. This period of Pratapsinh's rule (until his dethronement in 1839) would have momentous consequences in the debate over the Kshatriya, the tensions between Marathas and Chitpavan Brahmins, and the Maratha-Kunbi complex of castes.

Pratapsinh was ever suspicious of his Brahmin administrator Balajipant Natu, who had been assigned to him by the British who wanted to rein in the Maratha raja. The atmosphere of intense hostility seemed to confirm Pratapsinh's suspicions that the Peshwas had undermined the rule of Chhatrapati.

When James Grant Duff, who, as resident of Satara (1818-23) was 'monitoring' Pratapsinh, wrote his three-volume *History of the Mahrattas* (1828) – the first attempt to document the exploits of Shivaji and the foundation of the Maratha state until its decline and dissolution – Pratapsinh eagerly endorsed it and had it translated in Marathi. This work, along with the conflicts and debates between the Satara ruler and Brahmans, would lead to the wide diffusion of the term 'Maratha' in western Indian society in the 1860s and 70s, when more and more Kunbis aspired to be called Marathas as a mark of social mobility.

As o' Hanlon observes in her book, from the 1860s onwards the term 'Maratha' gained significance until it became a new identity that was applied to the whole Maratha-Kunbi grouping to the specific exclusion of Brahmins. O'Hanlon observes that the upward social mobility of many Kunbi families who aspired to gain acceptance in elite Maratha circles, was neatly summed up in the proverb *kunbi majhala Maratha zhala* (when a Kunbi prospers, he becomes a Maratha).

Today, in one of history's ironies and reversals of fortune, it is the Marathas (albeit in a certain part of Maharashtra) who are demanding to be called 'Kunbis' to avail of OBC reservation benefits.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Here is a quiz on events and milestones that happened on June 19

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

This American couple was convicted of spying for the Soviet Union in 1951. On June 19, 1953, the couple became the first American civilians to be executed for espionage. Name them.

QUESTION 2

This politician from a neighbouring country won the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize. An activist, she has played a major role in the country's transition from military junta to partial democracy in the 2010s. Born on this day in 1945, who is she?

QUESTION 3

This Soviet cosmonaut was the first woman to travel in space. She returned to Earth in the spacecraft Vostok 6 on June 19. Who is she?

QUESTION 4

Name this country which gained its independence from Britain on June 19, 1961, when Emir Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem Al Sabah, the 11th ruler of the country, signed the Declaration of Independence.

QUESTION 5

This American baseball player was born on this day. Nicknamed "the Iron Horse", he is also now referred to in terms of a neuromuscular illness, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. After he was diagnosed with ALS, the illness famously came to be referred to, in the U.S., as _____ disease. What is his name?

QUESTION 6

June 19 is a federal holiday in the U.S. It is known as Juneteenth. What makes the day special to America?

Visual question:

Identify this American actor who passed away on this day in 2013. He is best known for his portrayal of an Italian-American Mafia crime boss. Name the actor and the show.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The number of countries participating from CONMEBOL and CONCACAF each Copa America 2024. **Ans: 10 countries from CONMEBOL and six countries from CONCACAF**
2. The two countries which have won the Championship the most times. **Ans: Argentina and Uruguay**
3. The two countries out of the 10 from the CONMEBOL teams that have not won the Championship yet. **Ans: Ecuador and Venezuela**
4. The country making its debut in the 2024 edition. **Ans: Canada**
5. This person holds the record of having played in most matches. **Ans: Lionel Messi**
6. In 1959, the two editions of Copa America were hosted by these countries. **Ans: Argentina and Ecuador**
7. The first player to officially win the best player of the tournament award. **Ans: Carlos Valderrama of Columbia in 1987**
Visual: The only player to win Copa America both as a player and a coach. **Ans: Dunga of Brazil**
Early Birds: Jyot Prakash Gulati| Sadhan Kumar Panda| Ayushman| Abhay Krishan

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Novel, fiction (S. Keshav, Tiptur)."

"A novel is a "long written story about people and events that have been invented by the author." It is usually written in prose. Most novels have a story, a set of characters, action and dialogue.

Salman Rushdie's Midnight's Children is a best selling novel.

I have not read any novels recently.

'Fiction' is a much more general term than novel. In fact, all kinds of imaginative prose writing can be included under 'fiction' – the story, play, narrative and the novel. So the word 'fiction' is a cover term for all forms of story-telling. For example, the 1980s were great years for fiction; a lot of good novels were written during this period.

I do not care much for poetry, but I do read a lot of fiction.

Agatha Christie was a writer of crime fiction. Have you read any of her novels?

Now-a-days, not many people maintain the distinction between 'novel' and 'fiction.' This is probably because the novel has become the most dominant form of fiction. As a result, the two words have almost become synonymous."

"Scurrilous (S. Dhandapani)."

"The word means 'grossly or obscenely abusive.' If a person is accused of being scurrilous, then he/she makes use of every trick in the trade to ruin another person's reputation. He/she may resort to outright lying, unfair criticism and even to the use of filthy language. For example, Vijay's book is full of scurrilous gossip.

Sharma makes scurrilous remarks.

A scurrilous attack is often accompanied by a lot of crude buffoonery. This should not come as a surprise because 'scurra' in Latin means 'buffoon.' The first syllable 'scu' is pronounced like the letters 'sku' in the word 'skull.' The second syllable 'rri' sounds like 're' in the word 'reply.' The final 'lous' is pronounced in the same manner as the 'lous' in 'marvellous.' The stress is on the first syllable of the word."

"Portmanteau (Kilpatrick Jones)."

"It is an "invented word that combines parts of two words and their meanings." The word 'brunch' for example is a portmanteau word, it combines parts of two words, namely 'breakfast' and 'lunch.' The br of 'breakfast' is combined with the unch of 'lunch'; and we have a new word 'brunch,' which means "a meal that is eaten in the middle of the morning." The word 'smog' is another example of a portmanteau word. The words 'smoke' and 'fog' are combined to give this word. A 'smog' is a mixture of smoke and fog and is usually found in highly industrialised areas. 'Motel' (motor and hotel), 'tigon' (tiger and lion), 'gerrymander' (Gerry and Salamander) are other examples of portmanteau words. Such words are often called 'blend' words because they combine, blend parts of two words to produce a new word. A man who excelled in the art of inventing such words was the mathematician Charles Dodgson, better known as Lewis Carroll, the author of *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*. He coined words like 'chortle' (combination of chuckle and snort), 'mimsy' (miserable and flimsy) and 'stithy' (slimy and lithe)."

Published in The Hindu on June 2, 1992.

Word of the day

Boisterous:
noisy and lacking in restraint or discipline

Synonyms: rambunctious, robustious, rumbustious, unruly

Usage: *He was faced with a boisterous crowd.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/boisterouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈbɔɪstərəs/, /ˈbɔɪstɹəs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

‘Renukaswamy was a habitual offender, sent obscene messages to several women’

He reportedly sent similar messages and photos of his private parts to Pavithra, a close friend of actor Darshan, which enraged the actor, allegedly leading to his murder

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Renukaswamy, who was allegedly tortured and murdered by a gang including actor Darshan over obscene messages sent to the actor’s close friend Pavithra Gowda, was reportedly a habitual offender and sent obscene messages to many women on Instagram, police sources said.

Renukaswamy

Sources said Renukaswamy was operating an Instagram account with the handle @goutham_ks_1990, using which he had sent obscene messages, his photographs, and even photos of his private parts to many women, especially those who did reels on the platform in the Kannada space. At least two women have now confirmed that they had received lewd messages and photographs from this account. One of them had even brought it to the notice of a police official in March 2024, but to no avail, sources said.

At least two women have now confirmed that they had received lewd messages and photographs from an Instagram account he was running, say police sources

Renukaswamy had reportedly sent similar obscene messages and photos of his private parts to Pavithra, a close friend of actor Darshan, which enraged the actor, allegedly leading to his murder. While he operated under the name Goutham K.S. on Instagram, he was using his photo, which he had sent to Pavithra. She reportedly brought this to the notice of Pavan, one of her employees, who in turn brought it to the notice of Darshan.

Police said Pavan posed as Pavithra and chatted with Renukaswamy, when he gave his mobile number and that he was from Chitradurga working at a medical store chain. Darshan allegedly contacted Raghavendra, who was the president of Darshan Fans’ Club in the district. Armed with the photo and the phone number, Raghavendra tracked down Renukaswamy, abducted him and brought him to Bengaluru on June 8, after which he was allegedly tortured and killed.

Design guidelines to develop ‘15-minute neighbourhoods’ in India

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Mercedes-Benz Research and Development India (MBRDI) has partnered with Jana Urban Space Foundation to introduce comprehensive design guidelines to develop ‘15-Minute Neighbourhoods’ in India. These guidelines, accompanied by an implementation toolkit, offer strategic measures for cities to ensure that essential amenities are accessible within a 15-minute walk or cycle ride, promoting sustainable urban planning.

The ‘15-Minute Neighbourhood’ concept focuses on enhancing the quality of life by encouraging high-quality pedestrian and public transport systems, safe public spaces, and inclusive social infrastructure. This innovative approach aims to replace the current trend of uncontrolled urban sprawl with efficient spatial development and improved mobility, said a release.

“Indian neighbourhoods are diverse, featuring varying population densities and socio-economic characteristics. The new guidelines emphasize the importance of walkability, safety, and accessibility, integrating these elements into the urban fabric. Extensive research into existing services such as mobility infrastructure, public transport, and green spaces led to the creation of the ‘Move-Play-Sustain-Include’ framework. This framework aims to support integrated mobility, create safe public spaces, establish sustainable markets, and promote inclusive social infrastructure, fostering vibrant and accessible communities.” said the release.

M.V. Rajeev Gowda, former Rajya Sabha member and former Vice Chairman of the Karnataka State Policy and Planning Commission (KSPPC), highlighted the urgent need for such initiatives. Rakesh Singh, former Additional Chief Secretary of the Urban Development Department, added: “Bengaluru, a city that has long been at the forefront of innovation and growth, also grapples with the perils of rapid urbanisation. The pressure of rapid development is felt in the city’s living conditions, in addition to its impact on the natural resources and ecology. Rather than relying on broad, one-size-fits-all approaches, it is crucial to tailor solutions to each neighbourhood’s unique needs and characteristics.”

3 bikes seized from Darshan’s house

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

City police, investigating the murder case of Renukaswamy, seized three two-wheelers from the R.R. Nagar residence of actor Darshan on Tuesday. The three two-wheelers were allegedly used by the accused for logistics purposes on the fateful day of June 8 and later to dispose of the body. The three two-wheelers were registered in the names of Mariyappa C., Ramakrishna, and one of the accused Nandeesh. However, they were all parked in Darshan’s residence.

Meanwhile, the prime accused in the case Pavithra Gowda, presently lodged in Annapoorneshwari Nagar Police Station, complained of dizziness and was shifted to the Mallathahalli Primary Healthcare Centre near the station. She had low blood pressure, was administered saline and is said to be stable.

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE
Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao Road, Nagarabhavi P.O. Bengaluru-560 072. *www.isec.ac.in*

Advertisement No. A/2/2024 | Date: 18.06.2024

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM THE ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES FOR THE FOLLOWING FACULTY POSTS

Sl.No.	Designation	Pay Band and Grade Pay	No.of Posts	Centre
1	Professor	PB 4 AGP 10,000	1	Population Research Centre
2	Associate Professor	PB 4 AGP 9,000	2	Centre for Economic Studies & Policy
				Agriculture Development & Rural Transformation Centre

The detailed Advertisement and procedure for applying for the above posts is available at our Website: **www. isec.ac.in**.
Last date for receipt of applications : **20th July 2024.**
Registrar
ISEC-24509

ICMR-NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NUTRITION
INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
Jamai Osmania Post, Tarnaka, Hyderabad - 500 007, Telangana State, India.

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION – I
No. ICMR-NIN/DR/Technical/2024/01 | Date: 19-06-2024
ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad is an Institute functioning under the aegis of Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GOI invites online applications from the eligible candidates for filling up of the posts under Direct Recruitment as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Pay Level	No. of Posts
1	Technical Assistant	Level: 6 - Rs. 35400-112400	08 Posts
2	Technician-1	Level: 2 - Rs. 19900-63200	14 Posts
3	Laboratory Attendant	Level: 1 - Rs. 18000-56900	22 Posts

The detailed Recruitment Notification is available in **www.nin.res.in,** along with online registration/application link. The last date is **23-06-2024.** The applicants are bound to adhere to the essential qualification notified.

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION – II
No. ICMR-NIN/Admn./DR/2024/2 | Date: 19-06-2024
ICMR - National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad is an Institute functioning under the aegis of Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GOI invites online applications from the eligible candidates for filling up of the posts under Direct Recruitment as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Pay Level	No. of Posts
1	Lower Division clerk	Level: 2 - Rs.19900-63200	6 Posts
2	Library Clerk	Level: 2 - Rs.19900-63200	1 Post
3	Upper Division clerk	Level: 4 - Rs.25500-81100	6 Posts
4	Library & Information Assistant	Level: 6- Rs.35400-112400	1 Post

The detailed Recruitment Notification is available in **www.nin.res.in**, along with online registration/application link. The last date is **25-06-2024**. The applicants are bound to adhere to the essential qualification notified.
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Salary : Higher Salary may be considered to the eminent & visionary having outstanding in Teaching & Learning Process, Research & Development, Quality & Accreditation. Apply within 10 days with detailed CV.
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OVERSEAS

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Detailed Advertisement is available on the HAL Website **www.hal-india.co.in.** Interested candidates may visit HAL website for further details. Eligible candidates may forward their duly filled applications, on or before **21st July, 2024** in the prescribed format, as per the instructions given in the detailed Advertisement. Corrigendum / Addendum, if any, will be hosted on the HAL Website only.

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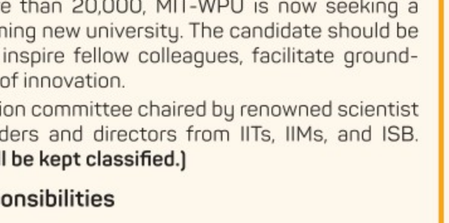

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INBRIEF

Bypoll to Council seat vacated by Jagadish Shettar on July 12

The Election Commission of India has announced the byelection to one seat of the Legislative Council from the Legislative Assembly constituency. The polling and counting of votes will be held on July 12.

The election will be held for the seat vacated by the former Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar. Mr. Shettar quit the Congress and resigned from the Council before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. He contested from the Belagavi constituency as the BJP candidate and won the poll.

The last day for filing nominations is July 2 while the last day for withdrawal of nominations is July 5, the EC order said.

High Court grants anticipatory bail to Bhavani Revanna

The court says the Special Investigation Team cannot expect her to answer as per its desire

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a relief to Bhavani Revanna, mother of rape-accused Prajwal Revanna, former MP, the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday granted regular anticipatory bail in the case of alleged abduction of one of the victims of her son's sexual assaults.

Justice Krishna S. Dixit passed the order while allowing Ms. Bhavani's petition seeking anticipatory bail.

The court said there is no material against the petitioner to *prima facie* attract Section 364A (kidnap for ransom and for causing threat of death or hurt) of the Indian Penal Code, as the victim herself, in her statement recorded either before the police or before the judicial magistrate, has not given any such statements against Ms. Bhavani.

Bhavani Revanna

On the argument of the Special Public Prosecutor of the Special Investigation Team that the SIT needs Ms. Bhavani for custodial interrogation and that this version of the SIT has to be accepted at face value, the court said if such a proposition is accepted, "It would strike the death knell for sacrosanct guarantees of freedom and liberty gloriously enacted in the Constitution, they have been progressively construed by the courts."

The court observed: "Despite vociferous submissions, why the police want custodial interrogation has not been even nearly substantiated and therefore, it cannot be granted, law having heavily loaded against such a claim."

Referring to the SIT's arguments claiming that she is not cooperating with the probe and giving misleading answers, the court said she had answered 80 questions so far and "the police cannot insist that an accused should give answers in the way as the police desire".

As a mother and woman

On the SIT's claim that she, being the mother of Mr. Prajwal, failed to prevent her son from sexually abusing several women, the court said the SIT has not shown by turning the pages of the statute book or by citing rulings of the courts, that what duty a mother owes in law to prevent her major children from committing offences.

The court, on the contention of the SIT that Ms. Bhavani belongs to an influential political family, said that in many heinous offences punishable with death or life imprisonment, the SC granted bail to women accused, and Ms. Bhavani, a married woman with settled family and roots in society, cannot be deprived of invoking the power of the court.

Epicentre

"In our social structure, women are the epicentre of family life; their displacement, even for a short period, disturbs the dependents. Added to it, they are emotionally attached to the family. Therefore, investigating agencies should be very cautious while seeking their custodial interrogation. Women by their very nature deserve preferential treatment *inter alia* in matters relating to bail, regular or anticipatory," the court observed.

Advice to media

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Justice Krishna S. Dixit of the High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday orally appealed to the media to exercise restraint while reporting on cases involving women, as it relates to the health of societal structure. A "media trial" could make people jump to conclusions about the alleged guilt of the accused, he said.

Prajwal remanded in 14 days judicial custody

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna, accused in three cases of rape, was remanded in judicial custody for 14 days by the Special Court of Magistrate for Criminal Cases against former and present MPs and MLAs on Tuesday.

His police custody ended on Tuesday and he was produced before the court. The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing all cases related to him did not ask for his custody further, sources said. The court remanded him into 14 days judicial custody. He was shifted to Parappana Agrahara Central Prison Complex later in the day.

The SIT has taken him into custody in two rape cases till date, while he has another rape case pending against him. The team is yet to conduct *mahazar* and medical tests on him in the third case, for which they are likely to take him into their custody again.

Cancel new mining leases of KIOCL, SAIL, says SPS

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

Considering the observations of the apex court in the public interest litigation (PIL) petition filed by Samaj Parivartana Samudaya (SPS), the Union and State governments should immediately cancel the new mining leases given to Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) and SAIL/VISL, both in Sandur taluk of Ballari district, S.R. Hiremath, founder president of the SPS, has said.

Speaking to presspersons in Dharwad on Tuesday, Mr. Hiremath said that the State and Union governments had permitted KIOCL to mine in 450 hectares wherein 99,000 trees would be felled in the virgin forests of Swamimalai block in Kumarswamy Range (Deodar village) and SAIL/VISL for mining in 60.7 hectares wherein over 29,000 trees would be felled in Ramalai block in Ramanadurga range in Sandur, Ballari.

He said that already SPS had filed a PIL in the Supreme Court against the leasing of forest area for mining and the SC on March 14, 2024, had issued a comprehensive order on the issues to be considered by the governments in such cases. Mr. Hiremath took exception to Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries H.D. Kumarswamy's act of approving the KIOCL proposal on the day of assuming office. "It is indeed a matter of deep concern that Mr. Kumarswamy, instead of studying the matter in detail, approved the KIOCL proposal on the very first day of his assuming office by just listening to the officials and not remembering his promise to the organisation and villagers of Sandur earlier," he said.

He said SPS and other like-minded organisations would urge the people of Karnataka and civil society organizations to support the legal fight in SC and the peoples' fight for environment protection in the interest of the future generations. Mr. Hiremath also urged the State government to replace the chairperson of the KMERC Shalini Rajaneesh to facilitate smooth functioning of KMERC.

Final stage

Meanwhile, responding to Mr. Hiremath's allegation during his visit to Dharwad on Tuesday, Mr. Kumaraswamy clarified that the file was cleared by the Ministry in 2017 and it had come for his signature after completing the procedure. He said he had not done anything new but signed the proposal cleared by the Ministry and if Mr. Hiremath had doubts, he could directly approach him. He also said there is no cause for concern about the project's environmental impact.

'Officials unfit to continue if they deny services at ST hostels'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday told officials of the Tribal Welfare Department that they are "unfit" to continue in service if they are unable to provide basic facilities such quality food, drinking water, beds, and bedsheets for students in hostels run by the department.

Issues in hostels

It came to notice during a progress review meeting with officials of the department that many parents take their children from hostels back home at night after dinner owing to inadequate accommodation facilities in ST students' hotels. The Chief Minister told officials to find out why the students were leaving hostels post dinner.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah chairing a meeting of the Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The meeting, chaired by Mr. Siddaramaiah, assumed significance in the wake of a multi-crore scam in the Valmiki Development Corporation of the department, following which focus has been on its activities and spending.

Taking note of the cleanliness issue, Mr. Siddaramaiah instructed officials to visit hostels during the evenings and ensure supply of quality foodgrains and other items to students.

Appointing teachers

The Chief Minister instructed the Finance Department to take action for the appointment of teachers. He said that the children of tribal residential school should be able to compete effectively with other students. It was directed that good use should be made of the smart class system.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that unnecessary purchasing of mattress, bedsheets and essentials will not be tolerated. He instructed that instead of getting 4G exemption unnecessarily, direct tenders should be called for procurement and services.

The department had received an allocation of ₹1884.01 crore and spent ₹1879.35 crore, achieving a progress of 99.75% during 2023-24.

SSLC performance

The officials said that 77% of students in the Class 10 had cleared the examination conducted in April, 2024. The Chief Minister told the officials to make efforts to increase the pass percentage of students in Class 10.

Mr. Siddaramaiah directed officials to issue an order to clear 22 pending cases before the Civil Rights Enforcement (CRE) Cell for verification.

BJP: Move to monetise govt. land indication of bankruptcy

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The reported moves by the Congress government to monetise government land to the tune of 25,000 acres in and around Bengaluru to raise funds has attracted sharp criticism from the Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party which has termed this as an indication of financial bankruptcy due to inept handling of finances by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

'Financial degradation'

"When a family is in financial distress, they sell their ancestral property as a last resort. Similarly, this government has reached its final stage. The government's plan to monetise the State's assets is proof of the State's financial degradation and bankruptcy. No previous government has taken such steps," the former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai told reporters in Gadag.

He described the reported plans to monetise assets through private partnerships as a scheme to benefit real estate groups to the tune of thousands of crores.

AAP protests fuel price hike

AAP members staging a protest against the fuel price hike, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) staged a protest at Freedom Park on Tuesday, condemning the State government's recent fuel price hike. Party leaders drew attention by garlanding two-wheelers and holding a symbolic funeral for them, before switching to bicycles and chanting slogans against the government.

State organising secretary of the party Mohan Dasari, criticised the government's financial policies, noting that since May 2023, excise taxes have been raised three times, property guideline rates by 25%, and various vehicle taxes have also increased. He argued that these measures are attempts by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar to gather the ₹52,000 crore required annually for the guarantee schemes. Mr. Dasari claimed these schemes were implemented without proper planning, leading to financial strain on the public.

JD(S) leaders stage protest

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Janata Dal (Secular) on Tuesday staged a protest here against the hike in prices of petrol and diesel by the Congress government by riding tongas (horse carts) and bicycles.

JD(S) Bengaluru city unit president H.M. Ramesh Gowda, MLCs K.A. Thippeswamy, T.A. Sharavana and Javarayi Gowda took part. Mr. Ramesh Gowda accused the Congress government of pursuing "anti-people policies". He alleged that the Congress which had dangled the carrot of guarantees to people was in fact collecting money directly from their pockets to fund the same.

The increase in petroleum prices would have a cascading effect by triggering the prices of various essential commodities, burdening the lives of people, he alleged.

KALABURAGI MAHANAGARA PALIKE, KALABURAGI

No:KMP/HS/SWM/FOOD/2024-25 DATE:15.06.2024

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

Job Description: Providing morning breakfast to sanitation workers under 24.10% SFC and general fund for the year 2024-25. From the eligible bidders as per the Karnataka Transparency in public procurement act 2000.

The tender called under e-procurement and the details can be availed in e-procurement portal.

1) **Name of Work :** Supplying and delivery of Morning Breakfast to Sanitation Workers in Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike 2024-25. **KMP/HS/SWM/FOOD/2024-25/01. Indent No.DMA/2024-25/SE3001,** Estimate Amount in Lakhs : **77.00 Lakhs**

2) Supplying and delivery of Morning Breakfast to Sanitation Workers in Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike 2024-25. **KMP/HS/SWM/FOOD/2024-25/02. Indent No.DMA/2024-25/SE3002,** Estimate Amount in Lakhs : **63.00 Lakhs**

3) Supplying and delivery of Morning Breakfast to Sanitation Workers in Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike 2024-25. **KMP/HS/SWM/FOOD/2024-25/03. Indent No.DMA/2024-25/SE3003.** Estimate Amount in Lakhs : **64.60 Lakhs**

4) Tender Last Date and Technical Bid opening Date : Tender Last Date : **24.06.2024 At 12.00 PM**, 5) Technical Bid opening Date: **25.06.2024 At 05.00 PM**

● For more details about EMD is availed in e-procurement portal, ● For more information Contact Environmental Engineer Kalaburagi Mahanagara Palike, Kalaburagi, ● Web Site : **Eproc.Karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner (Dev)
City Corporation Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/105/KSMC&A/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
FORENSIC SCIENCES DEPARTMENT
30-A, KAMARAJAR SALAI, MYLAPORE, CHENNAI - 600 004.

Tender No. D1/ 50837 / 2024

1) E-tender under two bid systems (Technical bid and Price bid) are invited from manufacturers / suppliers for the supply of the Instrument / Equipment upto 10 A.M. on 22.07.2024.
2) Towards the items floated in tender-technical, Commercial terms, **Earnest Money Deposit** at a **fixed rate** for Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometer (GC-MS) - Rs.8,00,000/-, Fourier Transform IR Spectrometer - Rs.3,00,000/-, UV-VIS Spectrophotometer - Rs.1,75,000/-, Densitimeter / Alcohol Analyser - Rs.50,000/-, Catalogues, Pamphlets, Specifications and tender documents as **Technical bid** and price of the equipment as **Price bid,** duly filled, signed are to be uploaded.

Name of the Instrument / Equipment
Instrument / Equipment - Schedule XI

3) Tender documents can be downloaded 19.06.2024 onwards from the website **www.tntenders.gov.in**
4) Tender will be opened on 22.07.2024 at 4.30 p.m. by the Directorate of Forensic Sciences Department.

DIPR/1973/Tender/2024 **Director [FAC]**

TAMIL NADU CEMENTS CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU UNDERTAKING)
5th Floor, Aavin Illam, No.3A, Pasumpon Muthuramalingam Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035.

e-TENDER NOTICE

e-Tender Ref.No:11/2024-25, Appointment of Transport Contractors for movement of packed cement through open trucks from Ariyalur Cement Works to various destination in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Kerala
Est. Value: **Rs.42.33 Crore, EMD: Rs.50,000/-**
Submission of tender: Up to 3.00 P.M. on 18.07.2024
Important Note:
A pre-bid meeting will be held on **01.07.2024 at 3.00 pm** at TANCEM, Registered Office, 5th Floor, Aavin Illam, No.3A, Pasumpon Muthuramalingam Salai, Nandanam, Chennai – 600 035.
The Tender document can be downloaded from **https://tntenders.gov.in** Corrigendum / Addendum to this publication, if any would appear only on the above said website.

DIPR/1986/TENDER/2024 **GENERAL MANAGER (MARKETING)/DRO**

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

N. Krishnan Nair

In solemn gratitude for the life of N. Krishnan Nair (Mohan-Age 69). We announce his passing on June 17th, 2024.
Deeply mourned by
Maya, Thapasya, Vinay, Deepak, Tanvi, Family and Friends.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer,QA/QC Division, Mahadevapura Zone, BBMP Head Office, N R Square, Bangalore - 560 002

No:EE (QA/QC)/MDP/TEND/15/CORR-01/2024-25 Date: 18.06.2024

CORRIGENDUM-1

With respect to **Tender Notification No: EE(QA/QC)/ MDP/TEND/15/2024-25. Date 12.06.2024**. The Last Date for uploading the Tender Document and Date of Opening of Tenders are Postponed due to Technical reasons as below **The Calendar of events as Follows**: **Tender Document may be downloaded through E-portal form**: 20.06.2024. **Pre-bid Meeting**: 24.06.2024 at 4:00 PM Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC) R. No.101, Annex-3 building, BBMP, N. R. Square, Bangalore-560 002. **Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders**: 28.06.2024 up to 4:30 PM. **Opening of Technical bid**: 29.06.2024 at 5:00 PM. **Validity of Tender**: 90 Days from last date of receipts of Tender. The Financial Bid will be opened after approval of Technical bid and other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Sd /-
Executive Engineer(QA/QC-Mahadevapura Zone)
Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike

Darshan case: Why it is unfair to blame the Kannada film industry at large

Social media has been abuzz with talk of reputation of the Kannada film industry due to the murder case involving Darshan. But is it right to criticise an entire industry?

Vivek M.V.
BENGALURU

Actor Darshan being taken for a medical test after he was arrested in connection with a murder case in Bengaluru on June 11.

Family members of Renukaswamy who was allegedly killed by actor Darshan's associates.

Two days after the arrest of Kannada star Darshan in connection with a murder, four Kannada films hit the theatres, oblivious of what to expect from an audience hooked to television news channels reporting the crime incident. With the channels unravelling the case in a sensational manner, the crime saga became irresistible for people, who already, filmmakers say, are reluctant movie-goers.

Of course, a high-profile murder case warrants continuous scrutiny from the media. But, it becomes a problem when an individual's act for a personal motive has a bearing on the reputation of an entire industry. Social media was abuzz with the narrative of "Kannada cinema's reputation receiving a blow" due to the murder case.

It's a loose and far-fetched conclusion, say people in the industry. Any opinion on an industry must arise from the content it produces, and its culture at large, and if there was one film that merited attention amidst the crime saga, it was *Shivamma,* the newly-released Kannada movie.

Directed by debutant Jaishankar Aryar and produced by Rishab Shetty, *Shivamma* had made the Kannada film industry proud by clinching the top prize at the Busan International Film Festival in 2022 and enjoying a dream run across reputed festivals in the world. With a small percentage of the family crowd and cinephiles celebrating the movie, *Shivamma* has been able to bring back some semblance of normalcy in the industry, which has been clearly jolted by the arrest of Darshan. People urging others to encourage quality movies like *Shivamma* is a sign that the show must go on, and no one star is the face of the entire industry. Dhananjaya's *Kotee*, which tells the tale of a middle-class man's struggles, is another film important release of the week that deserves a visit to theatres.

Spare the flak

Talking to reporters, actor 'Kiccha' Sudeep made a focused observation on the entire scenario. "The victim's family must get justice, and that should be our only concern. It's not about taking sides. More importantly, the industry must be spared of the flak it's receiving. An industry isn't made up of one person. There are thousands of people working hard to keep it running, and every time a problem arises, the entire industry gets dragged into the issue," he said. The actor's comments put the onus on the investigation and the legal system to serve a solution to the case.

The controversy has exposed one major negative side of the film industry. Clout and influence run deep in the industry, explaining why many big names have decided to stay silent on the case, with some exceptions. Actor Ramya/Divya Spandana slammed Darshan for "taking the law into his own hands", while actor and director Upendra called for more transparency in the investigative procedures. It will help the industry's cause if such reputed names voice their opinion against other deep-rooted problems as well, such as the lack of good writers and the need for a safer and more democratic environment for women, given how the industry responded to #MeToo allegations from female artistes.

The Kannada film industry is in a phase of transition. Propelled by the OTT boom and extreme competition from other industries, young filmmakers have dared to make different, original movies (*Shakhahaari, Blink)*. An unexpected row, triggered by a seemingly personal motive, shouldn't push the industry to the wall, denting the confidence of these young filmmakers. The onus is on the Kannada fans to recognise the efforts of these filmmakers, assuring them that they belong here, plead industry insiders.

From their end, artistes must gain people's trust by responsibly handling fame. The incident is a sharp reminder for several rising stars that popularity isn't everlasting, especially when you don't do enough to safeguard it.

Ironically, *Kaatera,* starring Darshan, is the biggest hit of the year so far. Released on the last Friday of 2023, the rural action drama celebrated a 100-day run in theatres. Following a pretty ordinary six months, the second half of 2024 looks exciting for Kannada cinema.

Need for balance

The industry is ready with a nice balance of content-oriented films and big-budget, star-driven movies. However, the promotion of films remains the biggest challenge for filmmakers, given how social media platforms are flooded with content related to the murder case.

Dhananjaya and Moksha Kushal in 'Kotee'. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sharanamma Chetti in 'Shivamma'. RISHAB SHETTY FILMS/YOUTUBE

Ekam

On June 17, amidst the tense atmosphere, actor-filmmaker Rakshit Shetty announced the premiere date of the maiden web series (*Ekam)* from his production house Paramvah Studios. In the promotional video of the series, showrunner and filmmaker Sumanth Bhat says, "Good cinema can be born anywhere, and most definitely it can be born in Kannada." It is with this positive spirit that artistes, fans, and filmmakers must slowly move past a condemnable incident.

IN-SPACe announces pre-incubation programme

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) has launched the Pre-Incubation Entrepreneurship (PIE) development programme to support and nurture early-stage space startups.

IN-SPACe is an autonomous nodal agency under the Department of Space.

According to IN-SPACe, the PIE development programme will cultivate and empower the next generation of space tech innovators, providing them with the tools and guidance necessary to transform their space dreams into reality.

The 21-month programme will guide aspiring entrepreneurs through a comprehensive journey divided into distinct phases of ideation, innovation, and prototype development. Dr. Pawan Goenka, chairman, IN-SPACe said, "The PIE programme will provide a launchpad, equipping them not only with technical expertise but also with the business acumen needed to navigate the complexities of the space industry. "

The PIE programme will help young entrepreneurs transform their innovative ideas into prototypes by fostering a collaborative learning environment giving participants an opportunity to connect with and learn from seasoned mentors, handpicked from leading research institutions, incubators, academia, and prominent space industry players. As per guidelines of the programme, applicants must be Indian citizens graduating in 2024, or already graduates, they should not have received any grants, funding, or monetary support from private or government schemes, and all submissions must be original work. Start-ups registered with the Department for DPIIT on or after July 1, 2022, are classified as early-stage start-ups.

Akshar Yoga Kendraa set to break seven new Guinness World Records

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

For the upcoming occasion of the 10th International Yoga Day, Bengaluru-based Akshar Yoga Kendraa under the leadership of Himalayan Siddhaa is set to organise a series of activities designed to highlight yoga's transformative power. The highlight of this year's celebration is an attempt to set 7 new Guinness World Records by holding 7 distinct Yogasanas, that aims to showcase the physical and mental discipline cultivated through dedicated yoga practice.

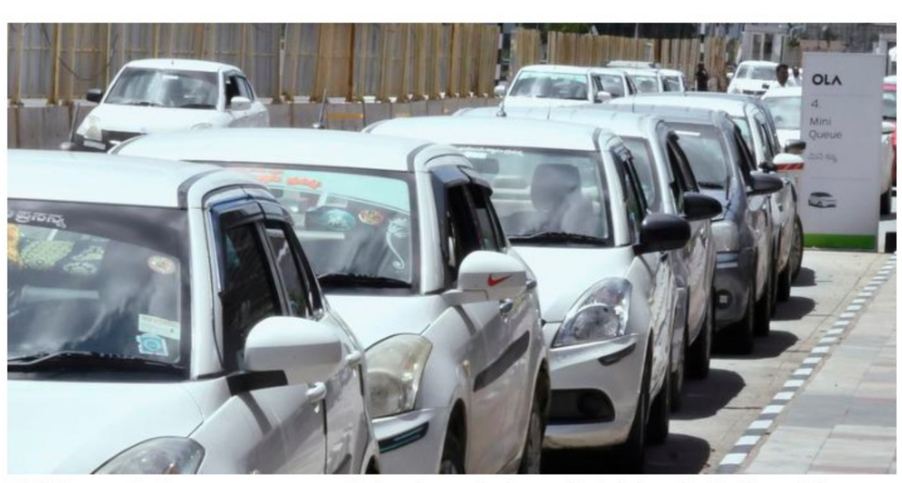
Participants in the event will include people from diverse backgrounds, including yoga enthusiasts, members of the Indian Army, NCC, Air Force, Karnataka State Police, specially-abled persons, children from orphanages, corporate employees.

Himalayan Siddhaa Akshar, founder of Akshar Yoga, said, " By involving a large number of participants in the Guinness World Records attempt, Akshar Yoga Kendraa aims to inspire a broader audience to explore yoga and incorporate it into their lives."

Cab drivers urge for better commission from aggregators in Bengaluru

According to drivers' union, the app culture is yet to board all auto drivers as they rely on spot bookings and meter charges

Abhilekh Baruah
Poorvi S.
BENGALURU



While Namma Yatri assures a zero commission charge, the larger clientele base lies in Ola and Uber, according to drivers.

While getting your ride in time as you run late for work is a common occurrence in Bengaluru, the other side of the story too deserves attention as cab drivers often grapple with the commission rates imposed by different ride-hailing platforms. While Namma Yatri assures a zero commission charge, the larger clientele base lies in Ola and Uber, according to drivers.

Higher fares

"We do get higher fares at peak hours, but the traffic is a hustle. My daily wages come up to ₹2000 to ₹3000 rupees, after deducting the commission and the fuel charges but it would be more helpful if the commission rates on Ola and Uber weren't so high," said Kiran Kumar who has been working as a cab driver for the last two decades. However, independent cab drivers who rely on their cab networks and groups to get bookings, they do fairly better and don't rely on the apps for bookings. However, SUV cabs like those of Hanumanth have higher fares compared to the everyday hatchback cabs, which are the most booked. "Uber's commission rate is at 40%, Ola's commission rate is at 30% and Rapido's commission is ₹600 after drivers reach an earning cap of ten thousand rupees," Mr. Hanumanth said.

On the other hand, some auto drivers reported a hike in earnings due to these apps that have simplified bookings for them. "While Uber charges a commission of ₹49, Ola and Namma Yatri charge about ₹25 a day for unlimited bookings. Nonetheless, Namma Yatri started charging drivers the commission about eight months ago although it is an Open Networks for Digital Commerce (ONDC) platform," Mahesh G., auto driver, from Jaynagara said.

"Namma Yatri currently has a zero-commission policy for both autos and cabs. This means drivers get to keep 100% of their earnings per trip.

Subscription fee

However, a subscription fee is applicable for auto. Drivers can choose a daily plan of ₹25 for unlimited trips or a per-trip plan of ₹3.50, which is ideal for those taking fewer than 2-3 trips a day. It's important to note that the subscription fee structure for cabs is not yet implemented and is expected to launch around October 1. We will likely announce the specific plans closer to the launch date," said Shan M.S., Chief Growth Officer at Juspay Technologies who runs Namma Yatri.

Union app culture

According to drivers' union the app culture is yet to board all auto drivers as they rely on spot bookings and meter charges. T.M. Rudramurthy, Principal Secretary of the Auto Rickshaw Drivers Union (ARDU) said that he has written to the Bengaluru Deputy Commissioner to increase auto rickshaw fare metres. He argued that the fare metre for 2 km has been fixed at ₹30 since December, 2021, and that these prices must be increased every year as per the standards of the Wholesale Price Index (WPI). Meanwhile, when *The Hindu* contacted cab aggregators, Rapido, Ola and Uber, they refused to comment on the questions raised regarding commissions.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 19, 1974

Prevention of River Water Pollution

Bangalore, June 18. The Health Minister, Mr. H Siddaveerappa is examining the provisions of the Central Act on prevention of water pollution in relation to Karnataka.

Enquires reveal that the Health Minister's scrutiny of the Central Act was in the context of the pollution of the Tungabhadra river, along the downstream from the Harihar point in the Chitradurga district, mainly because of the industrial waste emanating from the Harihar Polyfibres factory.

The pollution of the river, it is stated, affected about 45 villages and a population of several lakhs. Representations have been made to the Government seeking remedial measures.

Plea to Modify IT Dues Recovery Rule

Bangalore, June 18. Members of the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry urged the Income Tax Department, at a meeting gotup by the chambers here on Monday, to modify its rules regarding recovery of tax dues in view of the difficulties of assesses. Mr. M. S. Datta, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax, addressed the gathering on "recovery procedure of tax under the Income Tax Act."

The Chambers in a memorandum said that the non-availability of forms led to delay in filing the returns and sometimes litigations New forms were not being supplied in time. The department should not consider penalties and interest as sources of revenue.

Hidden flavours of the North East in the city

How much do you know about Assamese cuisine? We look at what a few restaurants in the city have to say about their clientele

Abhilekh Baruah

Assamese cuisine is one of the lesser explored in Bengaluru, even though it offers a variety of vegetarian and non-vegetarian choices. From *khaar*, a gravy made out of papaya, to pork roast, the options available offer a unique blend of flavours and textures.

We take a look at some restaurants that serve Assamese cuisine in Bengaluru:

Gams Delicacy

Jitendra Baruah, manager of Gams Delicacy in Koramangala, explains how the use of authentic ingredients is at the heart and soul of Assamese cuisine. "We craft a variety of chutneys made with white sesame seeds, ghost pepper and lentils, which are the traditional accompaniments to our main dishes; they enhance the overall dining experience," he says.

Some essential ingredients in this cuisine include bamboo shoot, *kharoli* (mustard seed paste), *koldil* (banana flower), *outenga* (elephant apple), *thekera tenga* (amlavetasa), *laisaak* (mustard greens), *kumura* (gourd), *kaji nemu* (Assamese lemon) and *horu aloo* (baby potato). While most of these ingredients are sourced locally, some come from Assam.

At Gams Delicacy, which has been in business since 2015, traditional dishes of boiled chicken, pork and fish are served regularly while *jolpaan* (made of flattened rice, cream, jaggery and curd), *bora saul* (sticky rice) and *pitha (*a sweet) are made occasionally. According to Jitendra, most Assamese customers order smoked pork or pork made with bamboo shoot while non-Assamese customers usually order chicken or pork with potato curry.

Certain items such as bamboo shoot see a mixed response from customers, Jitendra says. "Certain preparations and spices are unfamiliar in taste, smell and texture and non-native customers might find them difficult to enjoy. It could be an acquired taste."

Gams follows the tradition of serving *tamul-paan* (betel nut served with its leaf) after a meal. "It is a part of our custom back home so here too, we serve *tamul-paan* in a *horai* which is a traditional tray used in prayer offerings and felicitations." he says.

Unknown delights (From left) Traditional fish curry, Assamese *thalis*, mustard leaf quiche from Bezborua's Kitchen, traditional pitha, laru, black rice pudding and more. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Axomi

Perhaps one of the first Assamese restaurants in Bengaluru, Axomi was founded by three friends – Seemanta Sarmah, Pranjal Medhi and Dipankar Kalita in 2013. "We came up with the idea of establishing an Assamese restaurant in the city when we were studying at the Acharya Institute in 2006. At the time, we struggled to find good homely food. At Axomi, one can enjoy homemade preparations at a moderate price," Dipankar says.

"The response to our cuisine has been delightful. Besides members of the Assamese community, the authentic dishes at our restaurant were well-received by other patrons too," he says, adding, "Specialties such as *masor tenga* (fish curry) and pork dishes are favourites with Assamese customers, while the vegetarian *thali* is most commonly ordered by others."

Talking about special dishes, he says, "We had black rice pudding, sticky rice and *tupula bhaat* (steamed rice wrapped in leaves) on our weekend menu in 2015, it had a mixed response."

Though it started out as a restaurant, Axomi is now a cloud kitchen, due to the operational costs in Bengaluru. "With cloud kitchens running in Koramangala, Whitefield and Electronic City, we plan to extend to Hennur and Sarjapur as well as expanding to Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad," he added.

It is far easier to get direct feedback from customers in a restaurant, Dipankar says highlighting the disadvantages of a cloud kitchen.

Bezborua's Kitchen

"I like to cook for guests, and that is how I came up with the idea of a cloud kitchen," says Mitali Bezborua, sharing the reason behind her venture. Hailing from Jorhat in Assam, she has been delivering orders from her cloud kitchen since 2015. "I started this venture first in Kolkata in 2012, continuing it in Bengaluru when we relocated in 2015."

Based out of Gottigere in South Bengaluru, this cloud kitchen is one of the few authentic places to relish Assamese delicacies served with a modern twist.

What started off as a curry-based menu, Bezborua's Kitchen now serves puff pastries and quiches with traditional Assamese fillings. "We make puff pastries filled with banana flower, mashed potato and egg, boiled chicken and pork, and bamboo shoot," says Mitali. "Sweet options made with grated coconut and jaggery as well as vegetarian options made with paneer and mustard sauce are also available."

Assisted by her daughter and son-in-law, the menu also includes a quiche with a base of ricotta cheese and mustard greens and other traditional ingredients.

"Our most popular quiche has a filling of boiled pork or chicken with a base of ricotta cheese," she says.

EATING OUT

Across pan Asia

Priyamedha Dutta

Craving Asian food but cannot decide between Thai, Chinese, Japanese or Korean? It is a common enough dilemma faced by those eating out. The desire to have Chinese noodles, Japanese sushi, or Korean dumplings in one sitting might sound like a tantalizing dream, destined however to be disrupted by reality. Mumbai-based Nom Nom has arrived in Bengaluru with its array of pan-Asian dishes, to satisfy your Asian culinary cravings.

Located in RMZ Ecoworld, Bellandur, Nom Nom offers a thrilling fusion of Thai, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Burmese cuisine. Familiar, comforting flavours evoke a sense of nostalgia in every dish. While a wood-tone colour palate dominates the interior, rattan furniture gives a subdued look to the space. Nom Nom also offers an alfresco dining space if you want to enjoy a quiet evening.

As soon as we seated ourselves it started to drizzle, and we started our meal with a piping hot bowl of tom yum soup. What felt like a bowl of comforting flavours was the right fit for a rainy afternoon. Moving on we tried the tender coconut and raw mango salad. Fresh coconut, raw mango, and crunchy lettuce topped with creamy sweet chilli dressing made for a refreshing take on a traditional salad and was perfect for summer.

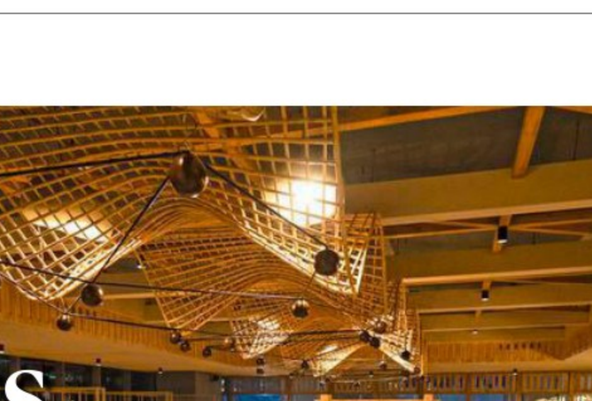
We then tried Indonesian-style spicy bird-eye chilli prawns with a side of very addictive Thai prawn crackers served with sweet chilli sauce. A blend of umami flavours balanced perfectly with the heat from the chillis.

Carrying on with our appetizer menu we savoured the chicken gyoza with a side of Shanghai sauce. The gyoza with its crispy golden exterior, filled with juicy chicken went perfectly with the sweet and savoury Shanghai sauce creating a harmonious blend of flavours.

What really stood out was the salmon and avocado roll, a Japanese delicacy that incorporates fresh salmon, and creamy avocado wrapped in nori and seasoned sushi rice – a must try if you are a sushi lover.

Moving on to the main course, we opted for *Cantonese*-style chicken in a soya chilli oyster sauce, with jasmine rice. Even though the fragrant rice went very well with the curry, the dish by itself was so-so.

Already full, for dessert we were spoilt for choice. We tried the Asian flavour chocolate delice dark, dark chocolate with a hint of coffee and matcha cream. The bitter dark chocolate mousse paired well with the sweet nuttiness of the matcha. For the second dessert we tried mango tart, which was an apt choice for the season and hit the sweet spot for all mango worshippers.



Spanning the subcontinent Salmon and avocado roll, other delicacies at Nom Nom. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

NOM NOM
Hits: Salmon and avocado roll
Misses: Cantonese style chicken
Price for two: ₹2500 with taxes and alcohol

Greens and pulses on the plate

Ishtaa, the popular Hyderabad premium vegetarian dining restaurant, opens its first outlet in Bengaluru.

Situated in Jayanagar, the menu features "authentic recipes from generational Telugu kitchens", says Teja Chekuri, who founded Ishtaa.

Teja is an entrepreneur in the food and beverages space, known for promoting Telugu cuisine.

His past endeavours include United Telugu Kitchen in Forum South Bangalore on Kanakapura Road and Ironhill Bengaluru.

Ishtaa offers dishes that you would only find in traditional Telugu households, he says.

"Though the cuisine is diverse across state lines there is always a core vegetarian dish that binds it together.

"At Ishtaa, we aim to revive, redefine and bring back the delicate and nuanced flavours of our traditional recipes that have been passed on through generations."

The Bengaluru branch is set in a bungalow and offers a rustic ambience that balances warm hospitality with the nostalgia of dining in a quintessential Indian home.

It is also designed to merge tall ceilings with fine brick perforations and glazing opening the façade bringing the outdoors indoors.

Some of the must try dishes on the menu are ice cream *dosa, panasapottu biryani, munakayya karivepaku* soup, *potlam parotta, idli* fries and Rayalaseema *yerra karam dosa.*

Ishtaa is at #60-157-30, 6th C Main Road, 30th Cross, Jayanagar 4th Block.

All things vegetarian Teja Chekuri's Ishtaa. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

CITYBEATS

Cheers!

ONGOING
SodaBottleOpenerWala, known for its Bombay Irani cafe ambience, has launched a new cocktail menu. These drinks are inspired by the "iconic tastes and legendary locales of Parsi and Bombay heritage".
The new offerings include drinks such as cutting *chai*, Crawford crawl, hanging garden, Matunga unfiltered and spiked Chowpatty.
At SodaBottleOpenerWala, Lavelle Road.

To the market

ONGOING
The Souq, an exhibition and sale of artefacts and handlooms is on. There are over 110 stalls displaying multi-purpose products and crafts created by skilled artisans ranging from decorative items for gardens, handloom *saris, kurtas*, jewellery, rain coats, hosieries and dress material apart from brass figurines and pottery. It is on till June 23 and entry is free.
At Chitrakala Parishath, Kumara Krupa Road

Kerala to oppose NCERT textbook revision

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Modification in portions on Babri Masjid and Ayodhya in textbooks by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is not acceptable to Kerala, Minister for General Education V. Sivankutty has said.

Narrow ideological stance of any movement or propagation of their ideas is not what should be included in textbooks. Actual history and science should be taught to students. This was the State's stance and what it would follow, a statement quoting the Minister here said on Tuesday.

The deliberate removal of certain portions from the books had led to many debates across the country. There were apprehensions from many corners that these changes sabotaged Constitutional values and secularism.

Priyanka Gandhi's Wayanad foray enthuses UDF, miffs LDF and BJP

The byelection is necessitated after Rahul's decision to retain the Rae Bareli seat in Uttar Pradesh; UDF leadership hails the decision; Congress hopes that Priyanka's pivot to Kerala will invigorate the Opposition's future electoral campaigns

The Hindu Bureau
KALPETTA/
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

All eyes are now on Priyanka Gandhi Vadra to see if she can repeat the astonishing majority recorded by her brother Rahul Gandhi.

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's upcoming electoral bid to replace her brother, Rahul Gandhi, as the party's MP for the Wayanad Lok Sabha constituency has buoyed the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) and nettled the Left Democratic Front (LDF) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

The byelection in Wayanad has been necessitated after Mr. Gandhi decided to retain the Rae Bareli seat in Uttar Pradesh, which he won along with Wayanad. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge announced Ms. Vadra's candidature from Wayanad at a press conference on Monday.

The Congress hopes that Ms. Vadra's pivot to Kerala will invigorate the Opposition's future electoral campaigns, potentially broadening its path to victory in the 2025 local body elections and beyond.

The UDF leadership in Wayanad has hailed the Congress' decision to field Ms. Vadra for the bypoll.

All eyes are now on Ms. Vadra to see if she can repeat the astonishing majority recorded by her brother or surpass it.

"We hope Ms. Vadra will win the bypoll with a margin of more than five lakh votes," T. Siddique, Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee working president and Kalpetta MLA, told *The Hindu*.

He said Ms. Vadra would rejuvenate the UDF.

Communist Party of India (CPI) leader Annie Raja, a major contender against Mr. Gandhi in the Lok Sabha election, said the decision on her candidature would be taken by the party. Ms. Raja also batted for more women representation in Parliament and expressed happiness that the UDF had named a woman candidate.

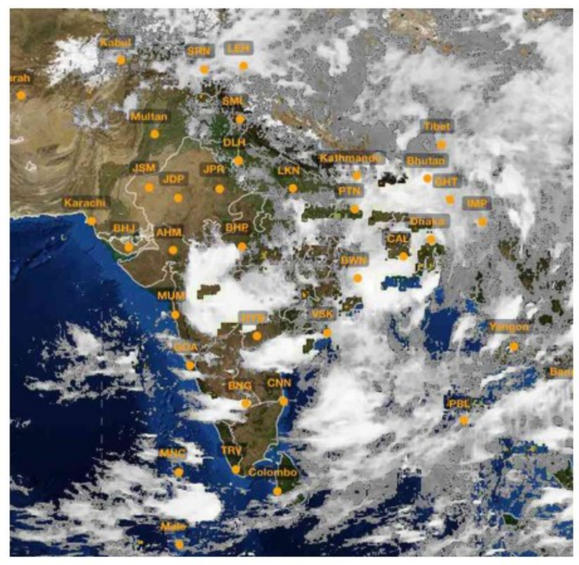
Ms. Vadra said on Monday, "I am happy to be able to represent Wayanad and I will not let them feel his [Rahul Gandhi's] absence. I will work hard and try my best to make everyone happy and be a good representative," she said.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan exuded confidence that Ms. Vadra would win with a historic majority.

The BJP said Mr. Gandhi betrayed the trust of the voters. Party State president K.Surendran, who had contested the seat, said Mr. Gandhi and his party only turned to Kerala when in dire straits for political gain.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD/YAHOO, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	29.4	27.2	Kozhikode	—	34.0	26.0
Ahmedabad	—	40.6	30.7	Kurnool	—	35.0	27.0
Aizawl	6	29.5	24.0	Lucknow	—	45.0	33.0
Allahabad	—	42.5	33.0	Madurai	—	38.0	27.0
Bengaluru	2	30.3	22.0	Mangaluru	—	32.0	26.0
Bhopal	—	38.9	27.2	Mumbai	—	32.0	29.0
Bhubaneswar	18.2	39.8	29.2	Mysuru	—	32.0	22.0
Chandigarh	—	43.9	32.0	New Delhi	—	45.0	33.0
Chennai	8	34.9	24.2	Patna	—	44.0	30.0
Coimbatore	—	33.6	25.2	Port Blair	—	...	—
Dehradun	—	41.8	27.6	Puducherry	—	37.0	28.0
Gangtok	12	20.5	18.3	Pune	—	30.0	24.0
Goa	—	32.3	26.0	Raipur	—	39.0	28.0
Guwahati	33	25.8	24.2	Ranchi	—	39.0	27.0
Hubballi	—	30.0	23.0	Shillong	—	22.0	20.0
Hyderabad	—	33.0	25.0	Shimla	—	34.0	19.0
Imphal	—	27.0	22.0	Srinagar	—	30.0	13.0
Jaipur	—	43.0	30.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.0	27.0
Kochi	—	32.0	27.0	Tiruchi	—	37.0	26.0
Kohima	—	24.0	19.0	Vijayawada	—	38.0	27.0
Kolkata	—	37.0	29.0	Visakhapatnam	—	35.0	30.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.24	..75	..9	... 153	...125	
Bengaluru	.14	..22	80	 37	47	
Chennai	...4	9	26	 31	84	
Delhi	.19	108	45	... 340	...357	
Hyderabad	.12	..10	33	 66	76	
Kolkata	...6	..26	21	 43	...100	
Lucknow	.15	..44	88	... 179	...152	
Mumbai	...1	145	12	 14	26	
Pune	..—	..42	80	 38	48	
Visakhapatnam	.11	..57	25	 58	...120	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dhanbad, Jharkhand recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 356 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Hubballi will benefit when Infosys centre is fully operational, says Arvind Bellad

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Responding to the Infosys' announcement of incentivising its staff willing to relocate to its Development Centre in Hubballi, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Arvind Bellad has maintained that Hubballi and North Karnataka would benefit only when the centre is fully operational and asked the IT firm to ensure that such measures are not another 'PR exercise'.

"Infosys should implement its announcements fully and not treat them as mere PR exercises," Mr. Bellad, who is also MLA of the area where the centre is located, posted on a social media platform.

During the Budget session of the Karnataka Assembly, Mr. Bellad had raised the issue regarding Infosys Development Centre in Hubballi. "Infosys was granted 58 acres of land in the constituency with the aim of fostering employment for the entire North Karnataka region. However, it has failed to deliver job creation. As a representative of the constituency, I can no longer face the farmers whom I had assured about the project's potential. It is time for Infosys to face the consequences and for the government to reclaim the land if necessary," he had argued on the floor of the Assembly.

"The fight for a fully operational Infosys in Hubballi has been on since 2015," he pointed out and said a fully operational Infosys would significantly benefit the region by generating Group C and D jobs locally, which are crucial for the economic development of the community.

New transfer policy

In response to the concern, Infosys had announced a new transfer policy. On Monday, Infosys stated that employees willing to relocate to its Development Centre in Hubballi will be incentivised as part of this policy. "The 50-acre Development Centre, built in 2022 can accommodate 5,000 employees. Employees are being offered incentives up to ₹8 lakh for relocation," Mr. Bellad said.

In the same post, he mentioned that the initiative would strengthen Infosys' operations and create direct and indirect employment opportunities, reuniting families and boosting regional development. "This will be a significant win for the people of North Karnataka only if Infosys transfers and recruits people for the Hubballi campus, rather than this just being another PR exercise," he added.

Muttiah Muralitharan to invest ₹1,400 cr. in beverages unit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sri Lankan cricketer Muttiah Muralitharan plans to invest a total of ₹1,400 crore in phases to establish a beverages (soft drinks) and confectionery unit in Badanaguppe, Chamarajanagar district, according to Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil.

The announcement came after Mr. Patil held discussions with Mr. Muralitharan on Tuesday, said a press release from the office of the Minister. Mr. Muralitharan plans to manufacture beverages and confectioneries under the brand 'Muttiah Beverages and Confectioneries'. The project, initially planned with an investment of ₹230 crore, has now been revised to ₹1,000 crore. It will be further increased to ₹1,400 crore in a few years.

The Minister also noted that 46 acres have already been allocated for the project, and manufacturing operations are expected to begin in January 2025.

BANGALORE RURAL ZILLA PANCHAYATH
Office of Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Bangalore Rural, Anand Rao Circle, Bangalore - 560009.
No: EE/PRED/BNG(R)/TND No-02/TS/2024-25 Date: 15.06.2024
TENDER NOTIFICATION No:02/2024-25
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)
Tender is invited through KPP Portal by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D, Bangalore Rural, under 2023-24 Atal Bhujal Yojane Head of account. The work details can be obtained from the KPPP Website: **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).**
The Tender Documents can be obtained and submitted on or before: **05.07.2024 upto 5.00 PM.** Further details contact this office during office working hours.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Panchayat Raj Engineering Division,
Bangalore Rural Dist. Bangalore
DIPR/CP/419/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC) Division, Mahadevapura Zone, BBMP Head Office, N R Square, Bengaluru-560002
No. EE(QA/QC)/MDP/TEND/16/CORR-01/2024-25 Date : 18-06-2024
CORRIGENDUM - 1
With respect to tender notification No. EE(QA/QC)/MDP/TEND/16/2024-25 Dt: 14-06-2024 The Last Date for uploading the Tender Document and Date of Opening of Tenders are Postponed due to Technical reasons as below.
(1) Tender Document may be downloaded through KPP portal from : **20-06-2024 (2)** Pre-bid Meeting : **24-06-2024 at 4.00 PM** Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC) Room No. 101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP N R Square, Bengaluru-560002. **(3)** Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders : **28-06-2024 up to 4.30 PM (4)** Opening of Technical bid : **29-06-2024 at 5:00 PM (5)** Financial bid opening : After Approval of Technical bid through KPP Portal **(6)** Validity of Tender : 90 Days from last date of receipts of Tender.
The Financial Bid will be opened after approval of Technical bid and other terms and conditions remain unchanged.
Sd/- Executive Engineer (QA/QC - Mahadevapura Zone)

Governmemt of Karnataka
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Udupi
" Rajathadri", B Block, 1st Floor, Room No B-208, Manipal, Udupi
NO:EE/RWSSDU/TenderNo.01/2024-25/JE-1/291 Dated: 18.06.2024
TENDER NOTIFICATION
Tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of Governor of Karnataka in "TWO COVER SYSTEM" through Government of Karnataka KPP portal for "Selection of Manpower Agency for providing outsourcing services for Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Udupi." Eligible service provider shall apply for this tender through KPP portal.
Calender Of Events: (1) The Contractor can download the Tender document from: **18.06.2024** (2) Last Date for Submission of tenders: **03.07.2024 4.00 PM.** (3) Opening of Technical Bid for the Tenders: **04.07.2024 4.30 PM.** (4) Opening of Finanacial Bid for the Tenders: **05.07.2024 11.00 AM.**
The blank tender documents can be viewed or downloaded from E-proc portal, Details of work/eligibility of contractor/Tender processing fees/dates of events etc. can be had from website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Further information can be had from the undersigned during office hours. Right of acceptance of tender is reserved. **KPP portal helpdesk: 080-22371090/22373788, Hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com**
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/ADU/KSMCA/56/24-25 Dt: 18.06.2024 Rural Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Udupi

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಕೊಠಡಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 126, ನವನಗರ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ,
ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 08354-235042, ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ : bgkeezpe@yahoo.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಕಾ.ನಿ.ಇಂ./ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿ./ಬಿಜಿಕೆ/ಪಿಬಿ-2,3/ಮೂರನೇ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ/ತಪಾಸಣೆ/2024-25/434 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 15-06-2024
ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ) ಕೆ.ಸಿ-2 ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999-2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆ್ಯಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ **ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಇವರು,** ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು / ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವೃತ್ತ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಇವರಲ್ಲಿ ಎನ್‌ರೋಲ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅಧೀಕೃತ / ಸೇವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯವರಿಂದ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ತಪಾಸಣೆ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು. **ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರ್ಮ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವುದು, ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮಾಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ. ಈ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.**
1) ವಿವರ : Estimate Number : RDPR/2023-24/SE0240/CALL-2 Estimate Name : Providing Technical and physical quality evaluation Services as 3rd Party for all Development and Maintenance works including Spill-over and On-going Works in Bagalkot District, Division under Taluks Bagalkote, Hungund and Ilkal implemented by PRED all works taken up under various head of account by the Bagalkot Dist and any other works as directed by higher officers, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ : As per https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in, ಟೆಂಡರ ಪದ್ಧತಿ : KC-2 Bid Document As per E-Protal, Tender Bid Document ಅರ್ಹತೆ : ಇ-ಪೊರ್ಟಲನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ,
2) ವಿವರ : Estimate Number : RDPR/2023-24/SE0243/CALL-2, Estimate Name : Providing Technical and physical quality evaluation Services as 3rd Party for all Development and Maintenance works including Spill-over and On-going Works in Bagalkot District, Division under Taluks Badami, Bilagi and Gulledagudda implemented by PRED all works taken up under various head of account by the Bagalkot Dist and any other works as directed by higher officers, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ : As per https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in, ಟೆಂಡರ ಪದ್ಧತಿ : KC-2 Bid Document, As per E-Protal, Tender Bid Document ಅರ್ಹತೆ : ಇ-ಪೊರ್ಟಲನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ.
1) ಖಾಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರ್ಮ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಶೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್-ಬಿಯನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 14-06-2024 ರಿಂದ 16-07-2024 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ, 2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 18-07-2024 ರ ಮುಂಜಾನೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ, 3) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯ ನಂತರ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲಾಗ್‌ಆನ್ ಮಾಡಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದು.
ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ.
ಡಿಪಿಆರ್/ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ/33/ಮಣಿಪಾಲ್/2024-25

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New dynamics

The G-7 must review its own purpose in a rapidly changing world

Welcoming leaders of 10 countries including Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the "G-7 Outreach" Summit, Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni said it was important to step away from the old trope of the "West vs the Rest". That sentiment explained Italy's decision to invite mainly the Global South countries including BRICS notables such as Brazil, India, and the UAE, to hold an outreach with seven African countries on energy issues, and to host the summit in the Mediterranean Apulia region. The G-7 was once hailed as a dynamic group of the world's most developed democracies where heads of state would roll up their sleeves once a year to effect real solutions to global financial and development issues. However, with manufacturing slowdowns, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict and western sanctions, the grouping has appeared more tired, and its meetings less effective. The shaky electoral fortunes of most of the G-7 leadership did not enhance that image at the summit. The joint communiqué read more like a laundry list of the world's problems, than it did as a strong call to action on resolving them. Most salient was the G-7's continued "military, budget, humanitarian, and reconstruction support" for Ukraine, but with no constructive plan on how to end the war. A Gaza ceasefire appeal has also not been accepted by Israel. The G-7's focus on China in the Indo-Pacific and on "industrial targeting" and unfair practices was particularly sharp, but it remains to be seen whether any member-country will reduce its own considerable trade ties with Beijing. A line in the communiqué that recommitted to about eight infrastructure corridors, including the India-Middle East-Europe Corridor, reinforced the lack of focus on executing (as distinct from discussing) projects.

Given the G-7's current situation, India, in attendance for the eleventh time, could well take stock of the engagement's utility. While the event was an opportune moment for Mr. Modi, now in his third term, to meet with some of the world's top leadership, the meetings themselves did not yield many outcomes. Formal bilaterals with the leaders of important partner the U.S., and fractious relationship-ridden Canada, did not materialise. Mr. Modi focused on India's elections as a "victory for the democratic world", on the importance of harnessing technology and artificial intelligence to bridge global inequalities, and on the value of the Global South, especially Africa. It would seem most of those issues would be better addressed in a larger and more representational format such as the G-20, while the G-7 may wish to review its own identity and purpose amidst a rapidly changing global power dynamic.

Drastic decline

Anodyne approach to oppositional politics has made BSP a shell of its past

In Indian democracy, if a ruling party does not perform according to the expectations of the electorate, the opposition always gets the opportunity to win back the support of the people, provided it works towards earning it. This is evident in the contrasting fortunes of the Samajwadi Party-Congress alliance and that of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), in Uttar Pradesh in the general election. The SP-Congress alliance took recourse to coherent messaging, targeting the Union government on issues related to protecting constitutional rights and freedoms and economic problems, while managing to stitch a new alliance that transcended the politics of narrow caste arithmetic reminiscent of the Mandal years. This helped it win 43 seats, boost its vote share and gain support from OBCs and Dalits. In contrast, the BSP's vote share fell to 9.4% – a nearly four point drop from the 2022 Assembly elections – as even its loyal Jatav backers split their support between the three major political forces in the State. Other non-Jatav Dalits, OBC sections and the minorities (overwhelmingly in their case) endorsed the SP-Congress alliance.

The BSP, a party, which began as a movement led by Kanshi Ram, reached its apogee in the late 2000s after being part of a series of post-poll coalition governments before winning power on its own in a split polity in 2007. By this time, its ideology had also shifted from being a "*bahujan*" (a term connoting the subaltern) to that of a "*sarvjan*" party, a catch-all phrase for an alliance of contradictions in order to win a broad-based vote. In government, the BSP accorded dignity to the Dalit population in the State and engaged in a fervent politics of Dalit symbolism, but showed little gumption to address socio-economic issues through steps such as redistribution or enlightened governance. Out of power since 2012, the party has remained an anodyne force, with its leader Mayawati abjuring agitational politics and largely limiting her political messaging and activism to statements and press releases. Her party has retreated into a cocoon even as it has sought to be a spoiler in the parliamentary elections by promoting a political messaging that relied on a false equivalence of the BJP and the SP-Congress. After her defeat, Ms. Mayawati blamed EVMs, the weather and the lack of trust among Muslims, while still refusing to acknowledge her own lack of agency that has resulted in the BSP's decline. To revive itself, the BSP can learn from the experiences of the Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi or even the fledgling Aazad Samaj Party (Kanshi Ram) that have taken to ideological and agitational struggle to represent the interests of Dalits, allowing these parties to punch above their weight.

The boomerang effect in this general election, and how

Vivek Deshpande

freelance journalist based in Nagpur, was with The Indian Express

The 2024 general election verdict has many takeaways. While some say that it has enlarged what was becoming a shrinking space for dissent and democracy, others say it has created hope for change in the future by reining in what would be called Prime Minister Narendra Modi's virtual dictatorial run.

But these are only the visible effects.

There is something deeply philosophical about this verdict. It is actually a civilisation-strikes-back occasion for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its ecosystem. The Hindutva project, that is spearheaded by Mr. Modi, has re-opened the old civilisational suspicion in the minds of the religious have-nots among Hindus. Far from creating a Hindu monolith, it has resulted in only counter-polarisation among Hindus themselves.

Clearly, Hindutva's civilisational call to Hindus to unite against a perceived enemy, mainly Muslims and liberals, and to reclaim Bharat's "glorious" past has proved counter productive. The 2024 verdict has proved that Hindutva politics has ended up polarising Hindus instead of uniting them.

The Constitution as turning point

This has been amply borne out by the subject of the Constitution gaining huge currency in the 2024 battle. The Constitution has been under attack from the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh ecosystem right from the time it was being formulated and debated. With Mr. Modi riding a wave of unprecedented popularity, the Hindutva ecosystem thought it had the numbers in Parliament and also sufficient moral authority to start talking about "changing the Constitution".

It began by blaming the Opposition for orchestrating a 'false' campaign against the BJP that it would change the Constitution to rob the backward castes and tribes of their affirmative action privileges guaranteed by the statute. But the Opposition was only picking up points from the several statements made by the BJP's own leaders and poll nominees.

Mr. Modi also entered the election with a repeated and strident call for 400 seats for his party. A relevant question was why was this number needed if not for changing the Constitution?

When some questions began to be asked, Mr. Modi tried every trick to neutralise any perception over the issue of the Constitution. But the impression had percolated deep and the damage had been done.

The most encouraging takeaway from this battle between Hindutva's civilisational haves and have-nots is that the Constitution – which embodied the essence of the civilisational course correction painstakingly championed by the leading lights of Independence struggle – itself proved to be the reason for this realisation about the real intent of Hindutva's civilisational project.

The Constitution of India has struck back, rebuffing the ruling party and its misconceived campaign against 'a perceived enemy'

This was to resurrect the so-called great and glorious past of Hindu civilisation and to "decolonise" Hindu society's collective mindset through a project that essentially relied on poisoning people's minds with a pathological hatred for those who do not belong to Hindu civilisation.

The Constitution itself was necessitated by the deeply dehumanising inequalities inherent to Hindu civilisation. In fact, Constitutions all over the world were necessitated by similar concerns.

Right-wing intellectuals, however, very insidiously try to belittle the path-breaking contribution by the makers of modern India by arguing that the statute book has great values in it not because of any outside influence, but because those values have flowed in from the "great" Hindu value-system.

One of the most commonly cited examples of this argument is that secularism was always inherent to the Hindu way of thinking. And, as such, it found its expression in the constitutional scheme of things.

The Hindutva protagonists, however, in the same breath, also prove themselves wrong by indulging in a demonising of Muslims and other minorities.

This hatred for non-Hindus is not the only thing that contradicts their own claims of "justness" in Hindus' ancient civilisational past. It is the affirmative action part of the Constitution that Hindutva revivalists often find tough to sit pretty with. So, while overtly supporting reservations, many Hindutva protagonists often openly denigrate it and also form the vanguard of "save merit" campaigns.

It also shows up when they start glorifying the *Manusmriti* and also try to introduce it in school and university curricula.

Clearly, their line of the Constitution being a reflection of past glory is subterfuge to cover up their ideological forefathers' past sins of opposing the Constitution in Constituent Assembly debates as well as in articles in right-wing publications when the Constitution was in the making. But the cover-up has been exposed.

'Political acumen' that was overestimated

The Hindu have-nots have a clear sense now of the possibility of the BJP turning the Constitution on its head by altering it to suit the BJP's idea of India that is anchored in some deeply problematic sociological premises. This realisation has had its singlemost profound impact in the 2024 elections – in a humiliating reversal for Mr. Modi's mission. And, as it is there for all to see, the BJP has only itself to blame. The Opposition only found the weak spot and exploited it to stunning effect.

What Mr. Modi and the whole Hindutva ecosystem must understand is that their social engineering and Hindu consolidation efforts over the past many decades have been brought to a naught by themselves alone. They tried to stand on two stools – an anti-minority plank and Constitution misdemeanour – and only ended up falling between the two. They tried to unite caste Hindus (upper castes were always organically on board) against Muslims and also antagonised caste Hindus, who were their foot soldiers in the anti-Muslim project, with their anti-Constitution bravado. In the process, they paid a heavy price.

There are several examples that underline this boomerang effect in this election. But nothing illustrates the issue in this way than the BJP's own defeat in Ayodhya in this election. The fact that the Opposition candidate, a Dalit candidate fielded by the Samajwadi Party, won shows that the people were not receptive to the Ram temple as something with which to cover themselves in glory, and that social justice was the real public concern. It also exposed the overestimated political acumen as well as the vulnerabilities of the BJP's self-styled Chanakyas.

So, where does the Hindutva project, in decline, go from here? Will this suspicion in the minds of the Hindu have-nots remain etched or will it wither away with time?

Going a bit deeper into the subaltern side of this election, it looks that the advantage of the BJP's *labharthi* (beneficiary schemes) was mostly cancelled out by the *Samvidhan* (Constitution) buzz since the labharthi section is largely the same as those disturbed by the BJP's *Samvidhan* plan. With this, the BJP's best bet becomes ineffective.

The Opposition must rediscover its voice

With Mr. Modi now having to run a coalition government, the Constitution debate might remain latent, unless the Opposition keeps it burning.

And burn it must, because a vast majority of Hindus have been fooled into believing that their real battle is with Muslims and not with the Hindutva haves, when actually, if at all, it is the other way round.

The makers of the Constitution had such deep divisions within India, and Hindu society in particular, in mind when the Constitution was being drafted. The non-BJP regimes managed to keep the Constitution's basic structure intact, keeping not only Hindus and non-Hindus together but also a deeply divided Hindu society as one whole.

Now, the Constitution has struck back, giving the BJP a civilisation rebuff.

The Opposition has its task cut out. It must keep this fight of social justice alive and prevent the misuse of Hindu have-nots to achieve Hindutva's communal goals.

The Hindu have-nots must cease to be a part of the right-wing's project as they have their own battles to wage and win against those who have misled them into believing that their real battle lies outside the Hindu fold.

The high cost of a global economic decoupling

Priyanka Pandit

Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS), Shiv Nadar University, Delhi-NCR

The announcement by United States President Joe Biden, in May, to slap a fresh round of tariffs on a range of Chinese imports, has refuelled fears of a new phase of decoupling in the world economy. Siding with Washington, policymakers in Europe are also deliberating having a 'united front' to counter China's pursuit of coercive economic practices.

While this may define the trajectory of China-U.S. relations, it is not clear what the long-term costs are going to be. With China, the West's trade risk calculations have increasingly become a function of national security. Contesting the liberal premise, the new political rhetoric in Washington assumes that since economic interdependence does not benefit China and the U.S. equally, it is likely that Beijing will weaponise vulnerabilities to its ends. In fact, the Biden administration's decision to resume a tariff war with China, reveals how political, and not economic, considerations become key in deciding what goods would receive tariff increases.

The story in the tariffs

The latest tariff on Chinese electric vehicles (EV) is a case in point. Given that the U.S. imports few EVs from China, the decision reinforces Mr. Biden's pro-union stance and his support for the ongoing efforts of the United Auto Workers (UAW) to scale up EV manufacturing domestically. Conceived as a pre-emptive measure, the quadrupling of tariffs from 25% also explains the fear that the American auto union has *vis-à-vis* the fast-growing Chinese car and battery industry and its ability to outcompete traditional domestic automakers in no time.

The new tariffs on medical devices, on the other hand, are a straightforward way to grow independent of China. For a decade now, China has been the primary source of medical equipment to the U.S., with imports nearing $640 million in 2023.

Many American health-care businesses have their manufacturing and research laboratories in China, and they have been ramping up their investments owing to China's growing health-care needs for the elderly and demand for quality health-care services. However, the deepening mistrust between the leaders of China and the U.S. creates pressure on the private sector and is likely to increase the burden of health-care costs on domestic patients in both countries. What protectionist enthusiasts often forget is that the costs of protection are borne through higher prices paid by consumers.

Intensifying geopolitical rivalry and a fragmentation of the global economy are threatening the liberal international order

The long-term effects

While continuity with the Trump-era tariffs seems to be the obvious answer to deal with an aggressive China, the world economic situation is at odds with the geopolitical realities. The vicious cycle of tit-for-tat tariffs further exacerbates the dangers arising out of protectionism, encouraging other countries to follow suit. Moreover, the new import restrictions on Chinese clean energy products would delay the green transition targets and the expansion of renewables worldwide. As China faces slowing growth and rising household debts, many western multinationals dependent on China's vast consumer market will see a dip in their earnings.

For resource-rich countries such as Australia and Brazil, a slowing Chinese economy would not only hurt their exports in various commodities but also create downward pressures on iron-ore prices. For these economies that are heavily dependent on China for their exports, diversifying into other markets is never an easy task.

Similarly, the European Union's approach to de-risking trade in critical raw minerals with China may entail a greater risk of Beijing tightening its iron grip on the supply chain. As the scramble to control the value chain of rare earths intensifies, one cannot rule out the possibility of a mineral-rich grouping, led by China, trying to dictate the terms of green trade in the years to come.

Southeast Asia has also not been immune to the effects of protectionism and great power competition. While the region is said to benefit from production and investment shifting from China, the dependence on Beijing for technology and investment continues to run high. And the region's prospects of replacing China as the major supplier of components and manufactured goods could dim if Washington imposes stricter rules of origin and eschew access to goods from third countries that use components either made in China or by Chinese firms located in these countries.

With a burgeoning consumer market, India remains next in line in expecting to benefit from the decoupling dynamics. But, one is not sure of the extent of gains in terms of global market share and the time this transition would take. The reason is that India's manufacturing continues to be in a catching-up phase despite several initiatives by the government. New Delhi faces tough competition in low-end manufacturing from its South and South-East Asian neighbours, and its deep economic entanglements with China remain.

A potential crisis

One, therefore, sees no end in sight if this cycle of escalation continues. More than its real significance, global investors would deeply feel the psychological effects of decoupling. What makes this strategy worse is its deliberate distancing from the World Trade Organization (WTO). Once a flag bearer of WTO rules, Washington continues to block the appointment of judges to the WTO Appellate Body, rendering the adjudicatory process paralysed. While a direct collision between the two is unlikely, the intensifying geopolitical rivalry along with the fragmentation of the global economy puts the future of the liberal international order at a high risk. And, it would benefit neither the U.S., China or the rest of the world.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rail accident

The train accident in West Bengal's Darjeeling district (Page 1, June 18) has highlighted the perilous state of rail safety in India. The hasty imputation, without proper inquiry, that the accident is due to human failure, is premature and inconsistent with the rules. The Railways must wean itself away from 'vanity projects' and focus on rail safety. Restoring the exclusive Railway Budget is also an imperative need.

N. Sadasivan Pillai,
Guntakal, Andhra Pradesh

The Congress's next move

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra did emerge as a star campaigner in the general election, but it is too early to perceive what extent her impact as a lawmaker will be, if it materialises. Wayanad, in all likelihood, will give Ms. Gandhi a thumbs up, but her litmus test will be the State Assembly elections. How far she will succeed in countering challenges posed by the formidable saffron party, swinging votes in her party's favour, remains to be seen.

V. Johan Dhanakumar,
Chennai

The Congress has rolled its last dice as the Congress's 'Brahmastra' will be on test in the political battlefield. Parliament and its business are a different game altogether. It remains to be seen how the Gandhi siblings steer and rebuild the party, by encouraging new talent.

S. Venkataraman,
Bengaluru

Testing time

When aspirants have to undergo much stress during their appearance for NEET, those who facilitated paper leaks and committed other offences need to face severe punishment. Hard-working students deserve better.

A.P. Thiruvadi,
Chennai

Time for a Census, come what may

Jean Drèze

Visiting Professor at the Department of Economics, Ranchi University

Why has the 2021 Census been delayed for so long? Here is one plausible answer: the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is delaying the Census because it wants to fast-track the "delimitation" exercise in anticipation of the 2029 Lok Sabha elections.

If this sounds absurd, think again. The 84th amendment of the Constitution clearly states that the next delimitation exercise is to be based on the first census *after 2026*. If the next census happens, say, in 2024 or 2025, then delimitation will have to wait until after the following census, i.e. sometime in the 2030s. So, if the BJP wants delimitation before the 2029 elections, then it must continue to drag its feet on the census until 2026 or even 2027 (since a 2026 census may not qualify as "after 2026").

Delimitation refers to periodic attempts to ensure that the shares of different States in Lok Sabha seats are similar to their respective population shares, and also that all constituencies have the same population size as far as possible, as required under Article 81 of the Constitution. As is well known, the forthcoming delimitation exercise is likely to shift the balance of Lok Sabha seats in favour of States that have experienced relatively fast population growth since 1973, when the last inter-State delimitation was carried out (based on the 1971 Census). This means, in particular, that the seat shares of the northern States will grow at the expense of the southern States. Naturally, this is a can of worms. Some of the southern States may rebel. If the BJP is able to get away with this, however, its electoral prospects will improve, since it has a much stronger base in the north than in the south.

The Opposition could try to thwart this plot by insisting on the timely completion of the Census, before 2026. There is certainly an objective argument for it. Census data are essential for many purposes, including the implementation of welfare schemes. To illustrate, the number of people benefiting from subsidised food rations would increase by more than 100 million if updated census figures were available to revise the coverage of the National Food Security Act. Postponing the Census deprives many people of essential entitlements. The Opposition could feed two birds with one crumb by insisting on an early census and deferred delimitation. The issue could also be taken to the Supreme Court: setting the date of the Census is the Central government's privilege under the law but postponing the 2021 Census by more than five years can be construed as an abuse of privilege and infringement of people's fundamental rights.

Paradoxically, the Modi government can fast-track delimitation by delaying the population census. The Opposition should resist this tooth and nail

K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

However, there is a catch, or so it may seem. This catch is related to women's reservation. The 106th amendment of the Constitution, passed last September, provides for one-third reservation of seats for women in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies. Under Section 5, this is due to come into effect "after an exercise of delimitation is undertaken *for this purpose* after the relevant figures for the first census taken after [2023] have been published" (emphasis added). So far, this has been interpreted to mean that women's reservation would begin after the larger delimitation exercise required by the 84th amendment. In that case, an early census would postpone women's reservation, by postponing delimitation. However, the words "for this purpose" in Section 5 can also be read to mean that women's reservation could proceed on the basis of its own delimitation exercise (involving nothing more than the designation of "women only" constituencies) ahead of the larger delimitation exercise. Therefore, nothing prevents the Opposition from arguing for (1) an early Census, (2) women's reservation from then onwards under the 106th amendment, and (3) delimitation later on (sometime in the 2030s) under the 84th amendment.

How much is the BJP likely to gain from delimitation? Before June 4, 2024, it seemed like it had a lot to gain because it had overwhelming support in the northern States and very little in the south. Today, that picture has changed, as the BJP lost ground in the north but gained some in the south. Nevertheless, the BJP still has a strong stake in delimitation. Consider this exercise. If the seat shares of political parties *within* States were to be kept constant even as the 543 Lok Sabha seats were redistributed *across* States in proportion to their current population, how would this affect the overall seat shares of the NDA and INDIA coalitions today? The answer is that the NDA's seat share would rise by about 3 percentage points, from 54% (294 seats out of 543) to 57%, while INDIA's share would drop by 2 percentage points or so. In absolute terms, this means that the NDA would have about 309 seats instead of 294 – an extra 15 seats. This is a big deal. The reverse side of the coin, however, is that delimitation might lead to a backlash against the BJP in the south. The BJP may or may not decide to cross that creaky bridge before 2029.

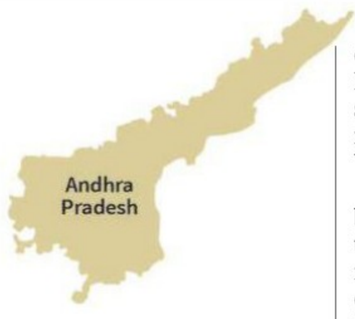
The fact remains that postponing the Census is hard to justify. Aside from obstructing women's reservation, it deprives millions of people of essential entitlements. They should not be held hostage to any party's electoral stratagems.

Welfare, voters, and mobilisation

Andhra's political parties must consider the challenges of a populist model too

STATE OF PLAY

Vignesh Karthik K.R.
Chandra Sekhar Vadigalla



The outgoing Chief Minister, Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy, in his poignant address after the rout of his party, The Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP), in State Assembly and general elections said; "...and yet, after all these incredible transformations, after touching the lives of millions, I wonder where has that affection gone, where did the warmth vanish..." The YSRCP government put in place a strategic new welfare-based governance model, leveraging short-term welfare measures to lay the groundwork for more extensive, infrastructure-focussed and capital-intensive endeavours. These welfare programmes, particularly aimed at women voters, were significant for their precision in reaching intended beneficiaries, and for their chequered impact on political parties and their workers in Andhra.

Women, particularly in the below-middle-class sections, are a crucial demographic in Andhra politics. Our fieldwork in four districts indicates that the welfare initiatives of the YSRCP substantially contributed to attracting women voters. The 'YSR Cheyutha' scheme offers direct financial aid, while 'Amma Vodi' provides crucial support for education. A door-to-door volunteer system was introduced which streamlined access to these benefits, especially for uneducated rural women.

Focusing on the immediate needs of women allowed the YSRCP to create a stable support base, leaving room for the party to pursue long-term initiatives. Andhra Pradesh under Jal Jeevan mission for reliable clean water supply installed water meters in over two-thirds of households. The 'Nadu-Nedu' scheme upgraded school infrastructure and introduced English medium education.

Historically, political communication has promoted welfare and development but as distinct categories. Yet, voters do not delink long-term and short-term goals. This is something the YSRCP seemed to have understood, boosting its potential for electoral victories. Besides, the volunteer network eliminated the need to rely on elite support for benefit distribution. This was practically achieved by direct benefit transfers, which can mute the influence of rural caste elites on redistributive schemes. That said, the caste elites still hold sway over society in Andra.

Streamlined delivery, reduced bureaucracy, and minimised leakages build voter trust and limit local cadres' control over resources. This shift in power dynamics has weakened local leaders' ability to mobilise support and cultivate cadres. The cadres, deeply invested in the party's ideology or leadership charisma, are crucial for voter mobilisation. The YSRCP's success largely depends on its charismatic leader. However, this charisma is not easily transferable, necessitating direct interaction with the leader. Marginalising cadres and limiting their access to leadership has undermined their motivation and hurt the YSRCP's electoral prospects.

While volunteers are capable of delivering schemes, their lack of ideological connection with voters makes it easier for similar parties to attract support. Volunteers' effectiveness in scheme delivery has not translated into electoral success for YSRCP because welfare and economic empowerment alone do not bind voters to a party. Without an ideological core, voters can be swayed by any party offering similar benefits and accessibility.

Conversely, the Telugu Desam Party's traditional approach, involving numerous localised rallies and a comparable basket of welfare schemes, has proven more effective. Their strategy of smaller, frequent rallies contrasts with Mr. Reddy's preference for large public gatherings. This method has allowed the TDP to maintain a stronger grassroots connection and mobilise voters more effectively.

Through its welfare model, the YSRCP established a powerful populist leader and built a loyal voter base but also undermined internal party dynamics, raising doubts about its long-term viability. The absence of a robust ideological framework begs the question: can a party reliant solely on populism endure periods out of power? This is a critical consideration for parties on a similar path.

Vignesh Karthik K.R. is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies, Leiden.

Chandra Sekhar Vadigalla is a doctoral researcher at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi.

The vagaries of equidistance in a polarised polity

Parties that endorsed the BJP's signature ideological policies despite taking on them electorally, suffered in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections

DATA POINT

Srinivasan Ramani
Swetha Kumar

Regional parties have been a significant presence in Indian polity for over three decades now. In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, they could be classified into three types – one, parties that allied with the Bharatiya Janata Party in the National Democratic Alliance; two, parties that were part of the INDIA bloc and a distinctive third category. This category includes parties that were technically not part of the NDA, and had, in the recent past, endorsed controversial legislations introduced by the BJP or adopted ideological positions closer to that of the BJP.

The first category includes parties such as the Shiv Sena (led by Eknath Shinde), Janata Dal (United), Telugu Desam Party, Janata Dal (Secular), Lok Janshakti Party, Asom Gana Parishad and Nationalist Congress Party.

The second category includes Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, the Samajwadi Party, the Shiv Sena (UBT), Nationalist Congress Party (SP), the Left parties, Rashtriya Janata Dal and Aam Aadmi Party. The Trinamool Congress supported the alliance after the polls.

The third category includes the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party, Biju Janata Dal, the AIADMK, the Bahujan Samaj Party, the Bharat Rashtra Samiti and the Shiromani Akali Dal.

In 2024, the fortunes of the parties in the first two categories were tied to the fate of their respective alliances – they did well where the dominant party of the alliance performed well. But the parties in the third category did rather poorly.

Table 1 looks at three legislations by BJP that were in line with their ideological positions on "asymmetric federalism in India" – dilution of Article 370, Farmers Bill and Citizenship Amendment Act. **Table 1** lists where select parties positioned themselves on these legislations. Note how YSCRP, BJD, BRS, AIADMK, AAP and BSP supported BJP on one or more of these legislations, despite technically contesting against the BJP in their respective States and ideologically being opposed to it.

Table 2 looks at the performance of YSCRP, BJD, AIADMK, BRS, BSP and AAP (not in the third category but endorsed the dilution of Article 370). These parties suffered a significant loss. The AAP had later taken antagonistic positions to the BJP but had also, like some State units of the Congress such in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, resorted to "soft Hindutva" as a counter to the BJP's emphasis on Hindutva as an ideological distinguishing mark. The Congress also suffered some of its heaviest defeats in these two States.

In T.N., the AIADMK lost much support after its alliance with BJP and could not recover it even after ending the alliance as the DMK-led coalition had a stronger cementing factor in its ideological outlook towards BJP. The YSRCP's endorsement of the BJP's ideologically motivated legislations robbed it of any distinguishing factor and especially the support of minorities, many of whom – according to the Lokniti post-poll survey – voted for the rival TDP and the Jana Sena Party despite their alliance with the BJP.

The BJD's "friends at the Centre/ rivals in the State" approach only allowed the BJP to grow at its expense, a fate that was endured by the BRS, whose later turn towards being equidistant from Congress and the BJP did not help either. The BSP also adopted the same ploy of "equidistance" and limited its critique of the BJP, abjuring any agitational opposition. It, too, suffered a significant erosion of support, with many voters endorsing the SP-Congress coalition in U.P. These parties also lost out on votes from those who wanted to support one of the national alliances.

Neither here, nor there

The data for the tables are sourced from the Election Commission of India

Table 1: The table lists where select parties positioned themselves on the three controversial legislations

Citizenship Amendment Bill	
Supported	**Did not support**
BJP, AIADMK, Akali Dal, Shiv Sena, JDU, YSRCP, BJD	AITC, SP, Congress, CPI(M), DMK, RJD, BSP, AAP, NCP

Farmers Bill	
Supported	**Did not support**
JD(U), YSRCP, BJD*, BJP, AIADMK	Congress, AITC, TRS, SP, DMK, RJD, AAP, BSP

* in Lok Sabha

Article 370 Bill	
Supported	**Did not support**
BSP, YSRCP, TDP, BRS, BJD, JD(U), Shiv Sena, AIADMK, AAP, BJP	AITC, SP, Congress

Table 2: The table looks at the performance of YSRCP, BJD, AIADMK, BSP and AAP. In the tables, the State parties' vote share and the BJP's vote share is mentioned. The State parties' contested vote share (cont.) and the BJP's contested vote share is also listed

Lok Sabha elections | Assembly elections

In Odisha

Year	Type	BJD vote %	BJD cont. vote %	BJP vote %	BJP cont. vote %
2009	LS	37.2	43.7	16.9	16.9
2014	LS	44.8	44.8	21.9	21.9
2019	LS	43.3	43.3	38.4	38.9
2024	LS	37.5	37.5	45.3	45.4
2009	AE	38.9	44.2	15.1	15.3
2014	AE	43.4	43.4	18.0	18.0
2019	AE	44.7	44.7	32.5	32.5
2024	AE	40.2	40.2	40.1	40.1

In Tamil Nadu

Year	Type	ADMK vote %	ADMK cont. vote %	BJP vote %	BJP cont. vote %
2009	LS	22.9	39.1	5.5	5.3
2014	LS	44.9	44.9	5.6	24.1
2019	LS	19.4	33.6	3.6	28.8
2024	LS	20.5	23.2	11.2	19.6
2006	AE	32.6	40.8	2.0	2.1
2011	AE	38.4	54.1	2.2	2.6
2016	AE	40.8	41.1	2.8	3.6
2021	AE	33.3	40.5	2.6	34.3

In Uttar Pradesh

Year	Type	BSP vote %	BSP cont. vote %	BJP vote %	BJP cont. vote %
2014	LS	19.8	19.8	42.6	43.7
2019	LS	19.4	41.1	50.0	51.2
2024	LS	9.4	9.5	41.4	44
2002	AE	23.1	23.2	20.1	25.3
2007	AE	30.4	30.4	17.0	19.6
2012	AE	25.9	26.0	15.0	15.2
2017	AE	22.2	22.2	39.7	41.6
2022	AE	12.9	12.9	41.3	44.2

In Andhra Pradesh

Year	Type	YSRCP vote %	YSRCP cont. vote %	BJP vote %	BJP cont. vote %
2019	LS	49.9	49.9	1.0	1.0
2024	LS	39.6	39.5	11.3	49.1
2019	AE	50.0	50.0	0.8	0.9
2024	AE	39.4	39.4	2.8	50.0

In Delhi

Year	Type	AAP vote %	AAP cont. vote %	BJP vote %	BJP cont. vote %
2014	LS	33.1	33.1	46.4	46.6
2019	LS	18.2	18.2	56.8	56.9
2024	LS	24.2	43.8	54.4	54.4
2013	AE	29.5	29.7	33.1	34.1
2015	AE	54.3	54.6	32.1	32.8
2020	AE	53.6	53.6	38.5	40.6

In Punjab

Year	Type	AAP vote %	AAP cont. vote %	BJP vote %	BJP cont. vote %
2014	LS	24.5	24.5	8.7	40.3
2019	LS	7.5	7.5	9.6	45.3
2024	LS	26.0	26.0	18.6	18.6
2017	AE	23.7	24.6	5.4	30.0
2022	AE	42.0	42.0	6.6	10.6

SWETHA KUMAR IS INTERNING WITH THE HINDU DATA TEAM

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 19, 1974

Govt. goal to root out smallpox in fifth plan period

SRINAGAR, June 18. The Union Health Minister, Mr. Karan Singh, on June 17 directed health authorities at the Centre and in the States to see that smallpox is eradicated during the Fifth Plan period.

He set this deadline in his inaugural address to the northern zonal administrative medical officers' conference here.

He said he was not impressed by the officials' explanation that the increase in the incidence of smallpox was due to improved arrangements for counting and recording of cases.

Increase in malaria incidence

Mr. Karan Singh noted that the incidence of malaria, which came down from 75 millions in the pre-independence period to about 150,000 a decade ago, had since gone up to about 1.5 millions. This "disturbing trend" was primarily due to the fact that mosquitoes had developed resistance to the spray used in the malaria eradication programme. Another reason was the complacency that had developed in the States and at the Centre too. He wanted malaria eradication to be given the highest priority.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 19, 1924

Indian students at Oxford.

LANGUAGE QUALIFICATION.

(Special Cable---Copy right.)

LONDON, June 18. The crowded Congregation of the Oxford University rejected by 60 votes to 33 the statute under which previous study of either Latin, Greek, French or German would no longer be a necessary qualification for the status of Indian junior student.

The Principal of Hertford in introducing the statute stated it would remove the anomaly and abolish what was regarded as a grievance. He said that foreigners from Europe had to meet the same condition, but one of the languages offered was their vernacular. Incidentally none of the five oriental classical languages was vernacular for oriental students and they were therefore placed at a disadvantage. The Rector of Exeter said that the choice lay between having at Oxford a large number of ill-equipped Indian students and a small number of well-equipped Indian students who could benefit from the advanced work of the University.

From Page One

Railways backs out of human error claim

The CRS inquiry will be held at the office of the Additional Divisional Railway Manager from 10 a.m. on June 19 (Wednesday), according to a notification issued by Northeast Frontier Railway, with the public being asked to bring any information related to the accident before the CRS or write to him.

While the Railways initially said that *prima facie*, the accident was the result of a human error, it has since come to light that the automatic signalling system along the route where the accident occurred was not functional since Monday morning.

Hence, manual memos were issued by the station master of Rangpani station to both the trains – the Kanchanjunga Express at 8:20 a.m., and fifteen minutes later, to the goods train at 8:35 a.m. – permitting them to cross the signal at red. This seems to contradict the claims of Railway authorisities, who had blamed the goods train driver of wrongly crossing the signal at red.

Questions have also been raised about delays in the installation of Kavach, an indigenously developed automatic train protection system.

Any negligence in NEET should be dealt with: SC

Mr. Agrawal beseeched the judges not to come to an adverse conclusion against the NTA and the government before they had submitted their responses to the myriad petitions filed in the top court.

The counsel said there was no doubt about the preparations that students put in for NEET. "We were discussing [outside the courtroom] the difficulties that children undergo," Mr. Agrawal said.

"Your stand outside ought not change the moment you enter the court," Justice Bhatti reacted.

41 airports go into a tizzy after receiving bomb threat by email

Director-General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security says hoax calls are on the rise, proposes five-year flying ban for culprits; Chennai, Coimbatore, Patna, Jaipur, Vadodara airports get threats; bomb detection teams take up searches

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

As many as 41 airports in the country received an email threat warning of bombs on their premises on Tuesday. All were later found to be hoax.

Zulfiqar Hasan, Director-General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), told *The Hindu* that such instances had been on the rise in the past two-and-a-half months. Threats had also been received by various airlines. He said six men had been arrested across the country by local police teams. The BCAS had proposed to the Civil Aviation Ministry a five-year ban on flying across all airlines for hoax callers, the senior official said.

"Threats have been received through phone calls, notes inside aircraft lavatories as well as emails. Some callers have been traced, and there have been a few arrests as well. Police teams are also analysing handwriting on various notes. As far as emails are concerned, some have been traced, while others are being investigated," Mr. Hasan said.

Airport sources said that on Tuesday, 41 Airport Directors received a bomb threat mail at 40 minutes past noon.

The mail was received from the email id exhumedyou888@gmail.com. "There are explosives hidden in the airport. The bombs will soon explode. You will all die," it said.

All airports constituted bomb threat assessment committees and declared the threat as "non-specific" or a hoax. The mail claimed that a group called "KNR", which had also issued threats to Delhi schools early in May, was responsible. The threat was issued to an email id of the Airports Authority of India.

Meanwhile, Chennai received its sixth threat in recent days on Tuesday. The threat, sent by email, was for an Emirates flight from Dubai to Chennai, which was to land at 2.35 a.m. but was diverted to Bengaluru due to bad weather and rain.

It later landed in the city around 9 a.m., airport sources said.

At Coimbatore airport too, security was tightened after airport officials were informed of the mail. CISF personnel carried out extensive searches inside the terminal building with a trained sniffer dog. The Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad of the Coimbatore City Police carried out searches. Patna, Jaipur and Vadodara airports were also among those that received threats.

The BCAS chief also said that that the security agency was in a dialogue with airlines on how to to trace culprits when they are travelling with the airline as well as minimise passenger inconvenience when such threat calls are received.

(With inputs from Chennai and Coimbatore Bureaux)

Tight security: A bomb detection and disposal squad team conducting security checks on the premises of the Coimbatore International Airport following a bomb threat on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Modi to open new Nalanda University campus today

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

On the eve of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bihar's Nalanda University to inaugurate its new campus on Wednesday, the university's interim Vice-Chancellor Abhay Kumar Singh termed the occasion "historic".

"We consider the visit of the Prime Minister a very prestigious and auspicious occasion," Mr. Singh said.

"The Prime Minister has made the occasion special because he is bringing the diplomats of East Asia Summit countries. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar is also coming. This celebratory spirit will give Nalanda a boost," he said.

Mr. Singh said after the Prime Minister's visit, the university will become more popular at the international level. At present, students from 26 countries are studying here. "The Prime Minister's visit is a big sign of validation and authentication."

He also praised Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar for lending unconditional support. Mr. Kumar will also be present along with the Prime Minister.

Days after attack, U.P. cattle transporter dies

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Saddam Qureshi, the sole survivor in the mob attack on three cattle transporters from Uttar Pradesh in Chhattisgarh's Arang earlier this month, died of injuries on Tuesday.

On June 7, two cattle transporters, Guddu Khan (35) and Chand Miya Khan (23), were found dead under suspicious circumstances after being allegedly chased by a mob.

Mr. Qureshi's testimony was crucial to the investigation in the case in which the police have neither made any arrests nor disclosed any details about the suspects so far.

Kirtan Rathore, Additional Superintendent of Police, confirmed Mr. Qureshi's death. He said the victim had been shifted to the government-run DKS Super Specialty Hospital here from Shri Balaji Super Specialty Hospital, a private medical facility in Raipur, where he was on ventilator support since the incident since the incident.

Based on a conversation with the doctors of the private hospital, *The Hindu* had earlier reported on Tuesday that the next "48 to 72" hours were critical to his recovery.

Shoaib, a relative of the deceased, who has repeatedly maintained that the incident was a mob lynching and that he had heard Mr. Qureshi's cries for help on a call made by the latter at the time of the incident, alleged that the Raipur police had so far not conducted the investigations in earnest.

"It's been 11 days since the incident and I have repeatedly met police officers seeking an update. But there are no arrests so far. We demand justice in the matter," said Mr. Shoaib, Mr. Qureshi's cousin and a common relative of him and Chand Miyan, whose phone calls with Mr. Qureshi have formed the basis of the First Information Report in the case.

Why are nearly 3 lakh posts lying vacant in Railways, asks Kharge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Day after Bengal accident, Congress president demands the resignation of Ashwini Vaishnaw

Stepping up its attack on Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw after the Kanchanjunga Express train accident, the Congress on Tuesday demanded his resignation, and accused the Narendra Modi government of "destroying" Indian Railways in the past 10 years.

The Opposition party also took a dig at Mr. Vaishnaw for reaching the accident site riding pillion on a motorcycle, and asked whether he was a Rail Minister or a "reel minister".

In a statement posted on X, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said that whenever there was a train accident, the Modi government's Railway Minister reached the spot under the glare of cameras and behaved as if everything was fine.

"Narendra Modi *ji*, tell us who should be held accountable, the Railway Minister or you," Mr. Kharge asked, posing seven questions.

"Why are nearly 3 lakh posts vacant in the Railways, why were they not filled in the last 10 years? According to the NCRB (2022) report, 1,00,000 people have died in rail accidents between 2017 and 2021 alone! Who will take responsibility for this," the Congress chief asked.

The Railway Board itself has admitted that the long working hours of loco pilots, due to an acute shortage of manpower, are the main reason for the increasing number of accidents, he said.

Mr. Kharge questioned why not a single kilometre of the much-hyped "Kavach" system had been added after a major accident in Balasore in 2023.

Despite rising number of accidents, Kavach work still on the slow track

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

The accident involving Kanchanjunga Express and a goods train in Darjeeling district on Monday, which claimed 10 lives, has brought to the fore once again the delay in installing Kavach, an indigenously developed automatic train protection system, across the country's rail network.

Experts, including former Railway Minister and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, raised questions about the delay. Ms. Banerjee said safety of passengers was no longer a priority of the Railways.

Within specified speed limits, Kavach automatically applies the brakes to avert a collision in case the loco pilot fails to do so despite another train coming in the opposite direction on the same track.

On Monday, the accident took place between the Rangapani and Chatterhat stations, throwing four coaches of the passenger train and five wagons of the goods train off the rails.

At a press conference hours after the accident, Railway Board Chairperson Jaya Varma Sinha said that *prima facie*, the accident was due to a "human error". To reduce this possibility, implementation of Kavach was being planned by the Ministry in a mission mode, she said.

Asked about the implementation in West Bengal and Northeast India, she said it was in the planning stage. She said installation of Kavach along the Howrah-Delhi route would be completed this year and in the Northeast Frontier Railway section in the next phase.

Last December, to a question in the Lok Sabha, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said Kavach had been deployed on 1,465 km and in 139 locomotives, including electric multiple unit rakes, in South Central Railway. "At present, Kavach tenders have been awarded for the Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Howrah corridors [approximately 3,000 km] and work is in progress on these routes," the Minister replied to a question by Benny Behanan and Kumbakudi Sudhakaran, MPs.

The Indian Railways has taken up preparatory work, including a survey, and readied a detailed project report and a detailed estimate on another 6,000 km, the Minister said.

The first field trials of Kavach began in February 2016, and the system was adopted nationally in July 2020. In his reply, the Minister said there were only three Indian original equipment manufacturers of Kavach, and efforts were on to have more of them to enhance the capacity to scale up the implementation. The Railway Board Chairperson stressed that they should augment their production capacity.

Adhir Sharma, former Director-General of Police of the West Bengal Railway Police, said Kavach was usually installed on passenger trains. But on Monday, it was a goods train that hit the express train on the same track.

Terrible tragedy: Rescue operation on at the Kanchanjunga Express train accident site in Darjeeling on Monday. ANI

CDS releases blueprint for warfare in cyberspace

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Acknowledging that cyberspace has emerged as a crucial and challenging domain in modern warfare, the Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan, released India's first joint doctrine for cyberspace operations during a meeting of the Chiefs of Staff Committee on Tuesday.

The joint doctrine will guide commanders of the armed forces in conducting cyberspace operations, the Defence Ministry said.

Unlike territorial limits in the traditional domains of warfare, cyberspace is a "global common and hence has shared sovereignty", the Ministry said.

NSAs of India and the U.S. assure industry to resolve any barriers that hold back relations

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

India and the U.S. have to remain at the forefront of technology to protect and defend the value systems as part of a larger strategic interest, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval said on Tuesday at the initiative for Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) industry CEO roundtable. His U.S. counterpart, Jake Sullivan, was present.

Both NSAs assured the industry that due diligence would be done to resolve any barriers which hold back deeper India-U.S. ties.

"iCET has achieved more than we could imagine," Mr. Doval said, highlighting the progress made across the defence innovation road map and start-ups, while particularly emphasising the importance of the semiconductor industry.

The roundtable was organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). "Both NSAs assured the industry that they welcome industry communications highlighting specific issues and due diligence will be done to resolve any barriers which hold back deeper and closer India-U.S. ties," the CII said in a statement.

"The industry enlightened the NSAs on their experiences thus far in terms of their bilateral collaboration, their vision on how to take the collaboration forward, and specific areas where government facilitation can play a key role in addressing particular barriers to unshackle further collaboration," the Ministry said.

Bilateral collaboration: National Security Adviser Ajit Doval with his U.S. counterpart, Jake Sullivan, in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

Two mega deals

At the roundtable, it has been learnt that both sides put forward their requirements and expectations from each other in terms of the policy framework to take forward cooperation in defence and high-end technologies.

The U.S. side pressed for strengthening of India's export controls as well the ease of doing business, according to sources present at the roundtable. The U.S. is also looking for India to speed up the two mega deals in the pipeline – the purchase of 31 MQ-9B unmanned aerial vehicles and local licence manufacture of GE-414 jet engines. Both deals are in the advanced stages but are yet to be cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Security.

In turn, the Indian side pressed for liberalisation of licensing requirements for India for more high-tech areas as well as increased funding for research and development, officials said.

Fake news can cause disaster: Dhankhar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Tuesday stressed the need to regulate information. He stated that unregulated information and fake news could create a disaster of "unimaginable proportions."

At an interaction with Indian Information Service (IIS) trainees, he said information was the most potent weapon and the fifth dimension of war. Manipulative, divisive, and agenda driven narratives peddled in the information space presented a real danger to the nation, he said.

APPEAL

Yashna aged 10 years, suffering from Relapsed B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia is advised to undergo Allogenic Bone Marrow Transplantation at Meenakshi Mission Hospital and Research Centre, Madurai. The total expenditure is **Rs. 16,00,000/-**. Her family is very poor and cannot afford this huge cost. Kindly help her to undergo the treatment and lead a healthy life. The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C.No: 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13. N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 28235324/ 7338978027. E-mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.** Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

WWS

Why is PM silent on NEET issue, asks Rahul

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Hitting out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for maintaining "silence" on the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) issue, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday said that his party was committed to taking the voice of the youth from the streets to Parliament.

In a post on X, Mr. Gandhi pointed out that the party's *Nyay Patra*, or manifesto, had given a guarantee to secure the future of the youth by enacting a strong law against paper leaks.

"We are committed to performing our role as a responsible Opposition to raise the voice of the youth from the streets to Parliament and put pressure on the government to formulate strict policies," he said.

His remarks came after the Supreme Court said even if there was "0.001% negligence" on the part of anyone in the conduct of NEET 2024, it should be thoroughly dealt with.

When can Rashid take oath as MP, Delhi court asks NIA

The court's direction to the agency came during the hearing of a plea for interim bail filed by the MP-elect from the Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency, while seeking bail to take oath in Lok Sabha

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Tuesday directed the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to file its reply on the date Sheikh Abdul Rashid, aka Engineer Rashid, has to take oath as a Lok Sabha member.

The court's directions came during the hearing of an interim bail plea filed by Mr. Rashid, who won the Baramulla Lok Sabha seat in Jammu and Kashmir, seeking bail to take oath.

Mr. Rashid was arrested by the NIA in 2016 in a Jammu and Kashmir terror funding case and is lodged in the Tihar Jail at present.

Speaking on the development, advocate Vikhyat Oberoi, who represented Mr. Rashid, said, "The judge has directed the NIA to file response because there are three dates for oath ceremony. The NIA has been directed to file a reply as to on which date Rashid has to take oath."

Sheikh Abdul Rashid has been lodged in the Tihar Jail since 2019, charged under UAPA in an alleged terror funding case. FILE PHOTO

Case adjourned

Additional Sessions Judge Chander Jit Singh then adjourned the matter for further hearing on June 22.

The first session of the 18th Lok Sabha will be held from June 24 to July 3. The session will witness oath/affirmation of the newly elected members of the Lok Sabha, election of the Speaker, address of the President of India and the discussion thereon, a communique from the government has said.

Mr. Rashid successfully contested the recently held election as an Independent candidate. He defeated National Conference leader and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah from Baramulla.

Terror funding case

In jail since 2019, Mr. Rashid was charged by the NIA under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention), 1967 Act in the alleged terror funding case.

His name cropped up when the NIA was investigating a terror funding case pertaining to Kashmir-based businessman Zahoor Watali. He was allegedly funding terrorist groups and separatists in the Valley.

The NIA had filed a chargesheet against several people, including Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik, Lashkar-e-Taiba founder Hafiz Saeed and Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin, in the matter. Malik was awarded life imprisonment by a trial court in 2022 after he pleaded guilty to the charges.

'Maa Ganga' adopted me, 2024 Lok Sabha verdict 'unprecedented', says Modi

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Narendra Modi being felicitated by Yogi Adityanath during the Kisan Samman Sammelan in Varanasi on Tuesday. PTI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said that "*Maa* Ganga" had adopted him and that the "mandate" of the 2024 Lok Sabha election was "unprecedented". Mr. Modi's made the comments in his speech during the release of the 17th instalment of the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi.

Mr. Modi, who was on his first visit of the Varanasi constituency which re-elected him to the Lok Sabha for a third consecutive time, released a sum of ₹20,000 crore for over 9.26 crore farmers.

"It is very rare in democratic countries for governments to be elected for a third consecutive time, but the people of India made this happen. In India, it happened 60 years ago," Mr. Modi said. "I consider farmers, women, the youth and the poor strong pillars of *Viksit Bharat*; as such, the first decision is for the farmers and the poor," he said.

The event was virtually attended by more than 25 million farmers from 732 Krishi Vigyan Kendras, 50,000 Common Service Centres, and roughly 1,00,000 Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies. "The PM Kisan Samman Nidhi is the world's largest Direct Benefit Transfer scheme, with ₹3.25 lakh crore deposited into the bank accounts of millions of farmer families across country," he said.

Expressing gratitude to the voters of Varanasi, Mr. Modi said the love received from Kashi was immense. "With the blessings of Baba Vishwanath and *Maa* Ganga, and the immense love of the people of Kashi, I have got the privilege of becoming the country's '*pradhan sevak*' for the third time. Now, it seems as if *Maa* Ganga has adopted me," he said.

He said the agriculture sector would play an important role in making India world's third-largest economic power. "With the trust of farmers, we will reach new heights," he said.

Congress plans strategy meetings for poll-bound States

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Buoyed by the Lok Sabha results, the Congress on Tuesday announced a series of strategy meetings for Maharashtra, Haryana, Jharkhand and Jammu and Kashmir, where Assembly elections are to be held later this year.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and former party chief Rahul Gandhi will meet leaders from Jharkhand on June 24 and those from Maharashtra the next day to discuss the party's election preparedness in the two States.

On June 26, Haryana Congress leaders will have their meeting with Mr. Kharge and Mr. Gandhi, while J&K leaders will meet them a day later.

"Carrying forward the momentum in our favour, we are dedicated to ensuring a handsome victory in the upcoming State elections... Onward and upwards!," AICC general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said in a post on X.

The election preparation meetings are important as the Congress will look to calibrate its strategy to take along its allies in Jharkhand and Maharashtra. In the Lok Sabha election, the INDIA bloc, which comprises the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena and Sharad Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), won 30 of the 48 Lok Sabha seats in the State. These three parties make up the Maha Vikas Aghadi and plans to contest the Assembly election as an alliance.

Mallikarjun Kharge with Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and K.C. Venugopal during a meeting on Monday. PTI

In Jharkhand as well, the party will look to continue its alliance with the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) along with other smaller players.

In fact, sources said Mr. Gandhi's decision to retain the Rae Bareli Lok Sabha seat in Uttar Pradesh was taken with an aim to strengthen the party's alliance with the Akhilesh Yadav-led Samajwadi Party (SP) before the next Assembly election and improve its presence in the Hindi heartland.

The decision to field Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, someone who has been working in the constituencies of Amethi and Rae Bareli in Uttar Pradesh for two decades now, from a constituency in Kerala can be seen as the party's attempt to bridge the North-South divide.

And if Ms. Vadra wins the byelection from Wayanad in Kerala, the Opposition benches will add an articulate speaker in its ranks.

"The voice of the people will resonate much louder with both @RahulGandhi and @priyankagandhi present inside Parliament," Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi said in a post on X.

NCP's Sunetra Pawar elected RS member

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar's wife Sunetra Pawar from the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) was elected Rajya Sabha member on Tuesday.

The Returning Officer and Secretary, Maharashtra Legislature Secretariat, Jitendra Bhole announced her election to the Upper House. Ms. Pawar's was the only application received for the post.

Sunetra Pawar

The only seat from Maharashtra became vacant on the resignation of NCP working president and former Union Minister Praful Patel.

As first LS session nears, BJP tightens allies' coordination

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday held a meeting of senior Ministers, as well as some National Democratic Alliance (NDA) allies in New Delhi, to approach the upcoming Parliament session with a degree of coordination between various partners in the government, and to fine-tune the President's address to the joint session of Parliament before it is placed before the Union Cabinet.

Senior Ministers S. Jaishankar, Dharmendra Pradhan, and Kiren Rijiju, and Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) leader Chirag Paswan were present at the meeting.

Suspense still prevails over the big question in the upcoming session – who will be the new Lok Sabha Speaker? "Between Home Minister Amit Shah, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president J.P. Nadda, and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, all the allies have been spoken to individually, and it is certain that a BJP candidate is to be endorsed for the Speaker's post. It is possible that the Deputy Speaker's post will be offered to one of the allies," a source said.

Five sets of nomination papers are being prepared for the Speaker's elections, to be held on June 26.

"In the coordination meetings thus far, it has been decided that the executive committee of leaders and Ministers who meet with Prime Minister Narendra Modi almost daily during the Parliament session may have representation from the NDA partners, a departure from the last five years, when only BJP leaders and Ministers were members," a source said.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Deputy Director of Horticulture
Annex-3 Building, N.R. Square, BBMP Head Office, Bangalore.

No. DDH/TENDER/02/2024-25 Date: 18.06.2024

LETTER OF INVITATION FOR TENDER(IFT)
(TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

A) The Deputy Director of Horticulture, (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies / Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Maintenance of Parks. **B)** The tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the instructions to tenderers to qualify for award of the contract (standard tender document KW-1, KW-2 KW-3 & KW-4). **C)** Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home** under login for Contractors.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works/Amount in rupees/EMD Amount
1	Development of park and greenery in BTM layout, Improvement of freedom park and planting of trees in Gandhinagar and Improvement to Rajkumar park in Sarvagnanagara (Call-3), Amount in rupees : **5,00,00,000/-**, EMD Amount : **7,50,000/-**

Calender of events as follows:
(1) Date of Notification : **18.06.2024, (2)** Tender can be downloaded from: **19-06-2024, (3)** Pre bid Meeting : **24-06-2024** at **11.30 AM, (4)** Tender Closing Date: **29-06-2024** at **4.30 PM, (5)** Technical bid opening date: **01-07-2024** at **4.30 PM, (6)** Financial bid opening date: **After Approval of Technical bid.**

Sd/- Deputy Director of Horticulture, BBMP

Government of Kerala
Published Tenders from 13-06-2024 to 16-06-2024

Harbour Engineering Department

Tender ID: 2024_HED_675047_1 * Executive Engineer * ARTHUNKAL 50 TON BLOCK - General Civil Work * Closing Date: 29-Jun-2024 * PAC: Rs24958128

Kerala Public Service Commission

Tender ID: 2024_PSC_675801_1 * Secretary * Supply of OMR answer sheets * Closing Date: 15-Jul-2024 * PAC: Rs11448000

Visit **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in** for more details.

Ro.No:13-16/Jun/2024/PRD/(N)9

ODISHA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA
PIN: 751012, Tel No.(0674) 2562020,
e-Mail: theocclltd@odishaconstruction.com / GSTIN-21AAACO2571K2ZM
"e- Procurement Notice No- 07/OCCL/2024-25 (on-line)
On-line percentage rate tenders are invited for the following works:

Sl. No.	Name of work	Name of Division	Bid Identification No	Approx Value of work	Bid security (through on-line transfer / as per DTCN) (in Rs.)	Period of completion	Availability & Submission of tender (on-line)
1	Improvement to Kakatpur Distributary from RD 0.00 Km to 3.601 Km of Kakatpur Branch Canal System	Nimapara Irrigation Division	OCCL-HQP/27/24-25	Rs.7.16 Crore	Rs. 7,16,000/-	9 (nine) calendar months	From 03/07/2024, 03.30 PM to 18/07/2024, 5.30 PM
2	Improvement to Kundhei Distributary from RD 16.200 Km to 20.332 Km of Gop Branch Canal System		OCCL-HQP/28/24-25	Rs. 7.55 Crore	Rs. 7,55,000/-		
3	Improvement to Barijanga Distributary RD 00 Km to 3.312 Km, Bhuyan Distributary from RD 00 Km to 3.625 Km & Alisabad Distributary from RD 00 Km to 1.036 Km of Chandanpur Branch Canal		OCCL-HQP/29/24-25	Rs. 7.63 Crore	Rs. 7,63,000/-		
4	Improvement to Astaranga Minor from RD 0.00 Km to RD 5.338 Km of Kakatpur Branch Canal System		OCCL-HQP/30/24-25	Rs. 7.37 Crore	Rs. 7,37,000/-		
5	Improvement to Service Road on left bank of Gop Branch Canal from RD 42.500 Km to 49.500 Km		OCCL-HQP/31/24-25	Rs. 6.70 Crore	Rs. 6,70,000/-	6 (six) calendar months	
6	Improvement to NBC right bank trom RD 00 Km to 18.00 Km		OCCL-HQP/32/24-25	Rs. 7.13 Crore	Rs. 7,13,000/-		
7	Concrete Lining to Gop Branch Canal from RD 10.812 Km to 12.00 Km	Prachi Irrigation Division	OCCL-HQP/33/24-25	Rs. 4.24 Crore	Rs. 4,24,000/-	9 (nine) calendar months	
8	Concrete Lining to Gop Branch Canal from RD 10.812 Km to 12.00 Km		OCCL-HQP/34/24-25	Rs. 7.47 Crore	Rs. 7,47,000/-		
9	Concrete Lining to Gop Branch Canal from RD 10.812 Km to 12.00 Km		OCCL-HQP/35/24-25	Rs. 2.08 Crore	Rs. 2,08,000/-	6 (six) calendar months	
10	Improvement to service road on left bank of PMC from RD 0.00 Km to 2.80 Km		OCCL-HQP/36/24-25	Rs. 2.16 Crore	Rs. 2,16,000/-		
11	Improvement to service road on left bank of PMC from RD 3.00 Km to 5.20 Km		OCCL-HQP/37/24-25	Rs. 1.69 Crore	Rs. 1,69,000/-		
12	Improvement to right bank of river Daya from RD 12.250 Km to 15.750 Km		OCCL-HQP/38/24-25	Rs. 2.16 Crore	Rs. 2,16,000/-		
13	Improvement to left bank service road of Puri Main Canal from RD 16.105 Km to 19.312 Km		OCCL-HQP/39/24-25	Rs. 3.04 Crore	Rs. 3,04,000/-		
14	Improvement of Dyke-I, Dyke-II & Dyke-III top road & approach road of Main Earth Dam of Balimela Dam Project	Balimela Irrigation Division	OCCL-BGP/01/2024-25	Rs. 1.93 Crore	Rs. 1,93,000/-		
15	Improvement of Canal Service Road (left bank) from RD 34577 M to RD 47419 M of Baragarh Main Canal	Bargarh Irrigation Division	OCCL-SGP/01/2024-25	Rs. 7.62 Crore	Rs. 7,62,000/-	9 (nine) calendar months	

Procurement Officer : Managing Director, OCCL. Date of Opening of the Tender : **19.07.2024, 12.00 Noon onwards**. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal: https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in
MANAGING DIRECTOR
CAD-237 OIPR-34120/11/0011/2425

Government of Karnataka
Department of Collegiate and Technical Education
N0. 1, Unnatha Shikshana Soudha, Sheshadri Road, Bangalore – 560 001
Phone: 080-22223906, email: dce.tenders2017@gmail.com

No.: DCE/ITS/PUR/10/2024-INFO (Computer No. 1336473) **Date: 18.06.2024**

E-Tender Notification

The Commissioner for Collegiate and Technical Education, Bangalore hereby invites bids in Two-Cover system through e-Procurement portal from eligible bidders for the following Tender. The Tender Documents with detailed terms and conditions may be obtained from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**.

Tender Schedules are as below

Sl. No.	Tender Name & Number	Date of Floating Tender on e- Procurement Portal	Date and Time of pre-bid meeting	Last date and Time for bidding through eprocurement portal
1.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/SE0006** "Providing Services of Data Entry Operators and Group-D Employees on outsource basis for Department of Collegiate and Technical Education"	18/06/2024	21/06/2024 12.00 Noon	29/06/2024 5.30 PM
2.	**Tender No: DCE/2024-25/IND00014** "Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Equipment and other Accessories necessary for establishment of Help desk at PMU of UUCMS Project"	18/06/2024	21/06/2024 11.00 AM	28/06/2024 5.30 PM

Sd/-
Director of Collegiate Education, Bangalore

DIPR/CP/421/Zen/2024-25

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2024 (OJEE-2024)
PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING OJEE WEB COUNSELLING FOR 2024-25

No: OJEE / 246 ***Date : 18.06.2024***

This is for the information of all concerned that OJEE Web-Based Counselling Process for **Lateral Entry courses** for **B.Tech (LE. Tech for Diploma Candidates) and B.Pharm (LE. Pharm for D.Pharm candidates)** is going to start from **19th June, 2024.**

Interested candidates having valid OJEE 2024 Rank (OJEE conducted during May, 2024) are advised to visit OJEE websites (www.ojee.nic.in/ www.odishajee.com) and see the detailed **Counselling Schedule** for these courses.

They are further advised to carefully go through the documents, **"Counselling Brochure" and "Step-by-Step Procedure"**, available in the website to get detailed information about the entire counselling process.

Sd/-
Chairman, OJEE ODISHA

h-01 OIPR-44026/11/0002/2425

INBRIEF

Under-construction bridge collapses in Bihar's Araria

A portion of an under-construction bridge collapsed along the Bakra river in Araria district of Bihar. No casualties have been reported. The bridge was being constructed at a cost of ₹12 crore. The water level in the Bakra has increased manifold after continuous rain in the catchment area of Nepal. The bridge could not bear the heavy flow and got washed away. The collapse took place in the afternoon and a video of it uploaded by a person in a nearby village went viral on social media. If the work on the bridge had been completed, there would have been smooth connectivity between Sikti and Kurskanta blocks.

1,225 tourists evacuated from landslip-hit areas of Sikkim

In its second day of rescue operation, the Sikkim administration on Tuesday evacuated 1,225 tourists from Lachung and nearby areas of Mangan district which was hit by a series of landslips and rain last week leaving at least six people dead, an official said. The evacuation of the remaining tourists, said to be a few hundreds, will be carried out on Wednesday if the weather permits as six helicopters are on standby at the Bagdogra airport in neighbouring West Bengal, Additional District Magistrate (ADM) Vishnu Lama said. The administration had rescued 64 tourists on Monday and brought them safely to the district headquarters of Mangan. PTI

U.S. Congressional delegation to meet Dalai Lama today

A U.S. Congressional delegation led by House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Michael McCaul arrived in Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh, on Tuesday to meet Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama. The delegation comprised former U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Congress members Mariannette Miller, Gregory Meeks, Nicole Malliotakis, Jim McGovern and Ami Bera. The delegation will meet the Dalai Lama on Wednesday morning, officials said. Mr. McCaul said, "We are excited to talk about many things, including the Bill which passed by Congress basically says that the U.S. stands with the people of Tibet." PTI

Let CBI probe killing of IIT student, says Assam CM

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has requested his West Bengal counterpart Mamata Banerjee to let the CBI handle the killing of an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur student from eastern Assam two years ago. The partially decomposed body of 23-year-old Faizan Ahmed from Tinsukia was found in a hostel room on the IIT-Kharagpur campus on October 14, 2022, and the initial reports suggested that he died by suicide. A second autopsy, directed by the Calcutta High Court and carried out after exhuming the body, revealed a gunshot wound on the upper left side of his neck and a stab wound on the right side.

China has 500 nuclear warheads, says SIPRI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's nuclear arsenal reached 172 warheads this year, slightly surpassing Pakistan which has 170.

China, on the other hand, has triple that number, with 500 warheads, some of which are believed to be on high operational alert for the first time, according to the Swedish think tank Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

SIPRI also noted that India is strengthening the undersea leg of its nuclear triad as well as developing long-range missiles.

"India's third SSBN [a nuclear-powered submarine carrying ballistic missiles armed with nuclear weapons] was reportedly launched in November 2021, and a fourth is under-construction for possible launch in 2024. These submarines are believed to be significantly larger than the first two, with satellite imagery indicating that they are approximately 20 metres longer," according to the SIPRI yearbook. On the second SSBN, *Arighat*, it noted that it was launched in November 2017 and underwent advanced sea trials in 2021-22, but that it's commissioning into the Indian Navy has been delayed and is now expected in 2024.

Heatwave-hit North India goes heavy on power consumption

Demand surged to 89 GW on Monday, highest ever for a single day; the Ministry says necessary measures being taken to meet the requirement

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

As of data available on March 31, the northern region accounts for about 25% of India's total installed power capacity of 442 GW. PTI

Amid the longest spell of heatwaves in the past 15 years, the power demand in North India surged to 89 GW (89,000 MW) on Monday, the highest ever for a single day. To meet this demand, nearly 25% to 30% of power had to be "imported" from outside the region, the Power Ministry said on Tuesday.

India's power grid is divided into five regions: north, south, west, east, and northeast.

As of data available on March 31, the northern region accounts for 113 GW or about 25% of India's total installed power capacity of 442 GW.

Despite its installed capacity exceeding demand, power still needs to be imported outside the region as not all plants operate all the time and at their optimal capacity and not all of the available power can be instantly transmitted to where it is required. On Monday, for instance, a power outage at the Delhi airport brought operations to a standstill in the afternoon for 30 minutes.

Most of the northern States continue to reel under heatwaves, with Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh reporting a maximum temperature of 47.6 degrees Celsius on Tuesday. The monsoon is only expected to arrive by June-end in the northern States, though a delay in its progress could push the dates further.

On May 30, India's total power demand and fulfilment hit 250 GW, which is an all-time high.

Several measures

The Ministry said it was meeting increased demands by ensuring that power plants relying on imported coal were kept in operation, and the bare minimum of plants were shut down for maintenance work.

It has advised power generation companies to keep their plants in a "healthy condition" for optimal operation, while hydropower stations have been advised to conserve water during the daytime and dispense the maximum possible power at night to ensure uninterrupted power supply. Gas-fired power plants would also be utilised to shore up power demand, it said.

Women's panel receives over 12,600 complaints in 2024

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The highest number of complaints received by the National Commission for Women (NCW) so far this year has been from Uttar Pradesh followed by Delhi and then Maharashtra. Strife-torn Manipur has recorded only three complaints of "crime against women" with the commission.

Of the total 12,648 complaints received by the NCW till now in 2024, 6,492 were from Uttar Pradesh. Delhi was a distant second with 1,119 complaints, while the number for Maharashtra was 764, according to the official data from the panel.

Among other States, Tamil Nadu recorded 304 complaints, Karnataka 305, Bihar 586, Madhya Pradesh 516, Haryana 509, Rajasthan 409 and West Bengal 307.

Category of crimes

As far as the categories of crimes against women are concerned, the highest number of 3,567 complaints were received in the "right to dignity" category that involves harassment other than domestic violence.

This was followed by 3,213 complaints of domestic violence.

The complaints of dowry harassment stood at 1,963, molestation at 821, police apathy against women complaints at 524, and rape and attempt to rape complaints at 658, the data showed.

Other crime details

There were 495 complaints of sexual harassment, 339 of cybercrime, 345 of stalking and 206 of honour crimes, it stated.

Interestingly, Manipur, which has seen large-scale ethnic violence as well as crimes against women, recorded only six complaints with the NCW in 2023.

In 2023, a total of 28,811 complaints related to women were registered by the NCW.

Violence against women

State-wise number of complaints received by National Commission for Women so far

State	Complaints
Uttar Pradesh	6,492
Delhi	1,119
Maharashtra	764
Bihar	586
M.P.	516
Haryana	509
Rajasthan	409
West Bengal	307
Karnataka	305
Tamil Nadu	304
Others	1,337

Scientists from India, China, U.K. develop catalyst to produce cheaper biodiesel

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

Dr. Samuel Lalthazuala Rokhum, centre, one of the authors of the study, with his researchers. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A team of scientists from Assam and Odisha in India, China, and the U.K. has developed a water-repellent catalyst that can cut the cost of producing "environmentally benign" biodiesel substantially from the current levels.

The process of arriving at the "spherical superhydrophobic activated carbon catalyst" to withstand water byproduct during the production of biodiesel – pursued as a substitute for diesel, an exhaustible fossil fuel – has been published in the latest issue of the peer-reviewed *Advanced Functional Materials*, a high-impact journal of the international materials science community.

The authors of the study are Arpita Das, Kangkana Saikia, and Samuel Lalthazuala Rokhum of the Department of Chemistry, National Institute of Technology (NIT), Silchar; Chandrakanta Guchhait and Bimalendu Adhikari of NIT, Rourkela, Odisha; Da Shi of the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom; and Hu Li of the Guizhou University in China.

Superhydrophobic catalysts, imitating the anti-wetting or water-repulsing properties of natural surfaces such as lotus leaves, are deemed crucial for their ability to prevent the poisoning of active sites by water, produced *in situ* or as a by-product.

"Our novel superhydrophobic catalyst can be a game-changer in the field of biodiesel production. It stands out because of unmatched robustness; it can withstand the water by-product during biodiesel production," Dr. Rokhum told *The Hindu*.

"This means the catalyst remains highly effective and can be reused multiple times, making the catalytic process more efficient and cost-effective," he said.

He further said the catalyst, derived from biomass (cellulose), is ecologically benign, abundant, and highly affordable. "This breakthrough has the potential to significantly reduce the cost of biodiesel production, making sustainable energy more accessible," he added.

At present, the cost of biodiesel in India is about ₹100 or $1.2 per litre. Using the superhydrophobic activated carbon catalyst can bring down the cost to about 37 cents per litre. A litre of less fuel-efficient diesel costs at least ₹87 in India. "Biodiesel is a key player in the quest for sustainable energy. Our innovative catalyst could pave the way for broader adoption and a greener future because it makes the production process more efficient, cost-effective, and environment friendly," Dr. Rokhum, among the world's top five scientists in the field of biodiesel, said.

Curfew in Balasore over communal violence

The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

Curfew remained in force in Balasore town, Odisha, following the clash between two communities over the rumours of mass slaughtering of cows on the occasion of Id-ul-Azha celebration on Monday.

The State Home Department has enforced an Internet shutdown in the town, while the usage of X, WhatsApp and Facebook has been prohibited till 10 a.m. on Thursday.

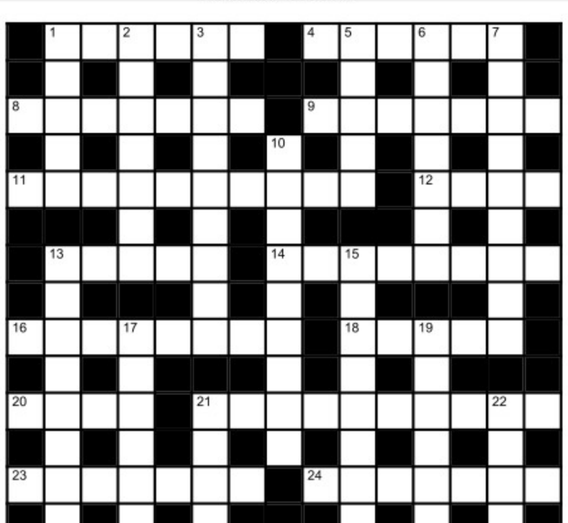
To prevent the circulation of inflammatory messages on social media and disturb the public order in Balasore municipality, the prohibition on social media usage has been enforced, said D.K. Singh, State Home Secretary.

TH CROSSWORD + 14205

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Go through parchment (6)
4 When starting late, children should gain resistance against disease (6)
8 Laboured night shift to arrest criminal (7)
9 Perhaps, factory can get new equipment at the start with the help of railway (7)
11 Copied an article one published in issue (10)
12 Pavlov engaged to wrap a stove (4)
13 Indiscriminate weeds in a plant (5)
14 Stops family getting a leather garment (8)
16 Measure, say cat's return track (8)
18 Southern gals in a funny way create jargon (5)
20 Leaders from South encourage agitators rabidly to burn (4)
21 Broadcast his rant about jerk who could be a disbeliever (10)
23 Rewrite article on show (7)
24 Finance is from New Delhi perhaps (7)
25 Letters from advisor relates to a plant (6)
26 Order to pay (6)

Down

1 Cut is small to suffer (5)
2 Rope used in ship seen on sailor's counter with another cord (7)
3 Male getting treated outside home by specialist of facial feature, say (9)
5 Worried after a bishop becomes slow (5)
6 Broadcast of genius around middle of October pertains to fire (7)
7 Son's publishing without source and examining (9)
10 Knocking off tips aside, it's lavish (9)
13 In a way, seems OK to describe large space in the front as one without puffers (9)
15 Partner is a fool of course, initially kept setter worried (9)
17 Bone for a month makes happier dog (7)
19 Look to stop transport (7)
21 Ask me anything unknown on electric shock (5)
22 Having meat in small eatery at the corner leads to stigma (5)

SUDOKU

	2				3		6	
		9	8		4			
			6				8	2
2			9					
	7	6				8	4	
					8			9
4	9				2			
			3		6	1		
	8		4				7	

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

■	P	E	T	A	L	S	■	G	U	E	S	T	S	■
■	I	■	H	■	I	■	D	■	N	■	T	■	I	■
M	O	L	E	■	G	L	I	T	T	E	R	I	N	G
■	N	■	R	H	■	S	■	I	■	E	■	G	■	■
N	E	W	E	S	T	■	T	H	E	A	T	R	E	S
■	E	■	■	■	E	■	I	■	D	■	C	■	R	■
P	R	E	C	E	D	I	N	G	■	C	H	O	S	E
■	■	■	O	■	■	■	G	■	■	■	E	■	■	■
B	U	G	L	E	■	N	U	R	S	E	R	I	E	S
■	S	■	L	■	H	■	I	■	C	■	■	■	N	■
G	E	N	E	R	O	U	S	■	R	U	S	H	E	D
■	L	■	C	■	T	■	H	■	A	■	C	■	M	■
S	E	T	T	L	E	M	E	N	T	■	A	S	I	A
■	S	■	O	■	L	■	D	■	C	■	L	■	E	■
■	S	T	R	E	S	S	■	C	H	I	E	F	S	■

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	7	5	6	2	4	3	1	9
2	4	6	3	9	1	5	7	8
1	9	3	8	5	7	2	4	6
7	2	9	1	3	6	8	5	4
4	5	8	9	7	2	1	6	3
6	3	1	5	4	8	9	2	7
9	6	2	7	8	5	4	3	1
5	8	7	4	1	3	6	9	2
3	1	4	2	6	9	7	8	5

FAITH

Nathamuni, the saviour

Nathamuni is credited with saving the Vaishnavite *sampradaya* from extinction and bringing to the Tamil-speaking world the works of Azhwars, who distilled the essence of the Vedas (in Sanskrit) and offered them in Tamil through their verses. Just as Bhageeratha undertook penance to bring the Ganga to earth, so too did Nathamuni take it upon himself to search and codify the songs of the Azhwars, said Tirukkudanthai Dr. Venkatesh.

Born in Kattumannar Koil in the Tamil month of Aani, Nathamuni is said to have been sent to earth with the purpose of bringing forth the works of Azhwars to all. During his visit to Sarangapani temple in Kumbakonam, Nathamuni heard the priests chanting '*Aravamudhe*' from Tiruvaimozhi. The ten verses held the clue that they were ten of a thousand. None knew of the fate of the other 990. Picking up another clue from the same verse, about a Sadagopan, he travelled to Alwarthirunagari, where the author Nammazhwar (also known as Sadagopan) had resided. Here too no records existed, but seeking Nammazhwar's grace, Nathamuni chanted Madhura Kavi Azhwar's 10-verse composition on Nammazhwar, '*Kanninun Sirithambu*' 12,000 times. The great acharya appeared before him and offered Nathamuni all 4,000 verses rendered by 12 Azhwars, now available as Nalayira Divya Prabhandam.

INBRIEF

Cipla to invest additional €3 mn in mRNA firm Ethris

Cipla, through a wholly owned subsidiary in the U.K., will invest an additional €3 million, by way of a convertible loan, in German firm Ethris GmbH to accelerate its participation in the mRNA-based treatment space. The additional investment follows the €15 million invested in 2022 and reaffirms Cipla's confidence in Ethris's proprietary mRNA platform. Cipla and Ethris are working on a long-term strategic partnership to fast-track innovative mRNA-based treatments.

SAMIL ties with Volvo CE to trade used construction gear

Shriram Automall India Ltd. (SAMIL) has tied up with Volvo Construction Equipment (Volvo CE) to provide seamless channel for exchange and sale of pre-owned construction equipment. This partnership will enable Volvo CE and their dealers to efficiently manage their exchange, demo and surplus inventory of used construction equipment, SAMIL said. Additionally, SAMIL will provide end-to-end support services to the customers of Volvo CE.

Alembic Pharma gets U.S. FDA nod for generic anticoagulant

Alembic Pharmaceuticals has received final approval from U.S. Food and Drug Administration for its abbreviated new drug application for Dabigatran Etexilate Capsules, 75 mg and 150 mg and tentative approval for Dabigatran Etexilate Capsules, 110 mg. The approved ANDA is therapeutically equivalent to reference listed drug product Pradaxa Capsules, 75 mg, 110 mg, and 150 mg of Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Net direct tax receipts rise 21%, CIT share dips to 39.1%

Share of Personal Income Tax and Securities Transaction Tax in net direct tax receipts crosses 60%, while corporate taxes yield less than 40%; Gross tax collections rose 22.2% by June 17

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Direct tax collections made a brisk start in the first quarter of 2024-25, with net taxes rising 21% to almost ₹4.63 lakh crore by June 17, from ₹3.82 lakh crore over the same period a year earlier, the Finance Ministry said on Tuesday.

Personal Income Tax (PIT) and Securities Transaction Tax (STT) inflows continued to dominate the tax pie, contributing 60.7% of the direct taxes, while corporate taxes (CIT) yielded a smaller share of 39.1%.

In FY24, net direct tax collections rose 17.7% to hit ₹19.58 lakh crore, with PIT's share rising to 53.3% from 50.1% in the previous year while CIT's contribution declined to 46.5% from 49.6%.

Advance tax collections for this year stood at ₹1,48,823 crore, reflecting a growth of 27.3%, with ₹1,14,353 crore paid as CIT, while PIT receipts were ₹34,470 crore.

Prior to refunds, the gross direct tax collections had risen 22.2% to about ₹5.16 lakh crore by June 17, compared with ₹4.22 lakh crore at the same time last year. Gross CIT collections were ₹2.26 lakh crore and PIT, STT receipts stood at ₹2,88,993 crore. Among minor heads for tax receipts, Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) yielded ₹3,24,787 crore.

Buoyant takings

Net direct tax collections rose 21% YoY to almost ₹4.63 lakh crore by June 17 from ₹3.82 lakh crore

- Gross CIT collections were ₹2.26 lakh crore and PIT, STT receipts stood at ₹2,88,993 crore
- Among minor heads for tax receipts, Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) yielded ₹3,24,787 crore
- In FY24, PIT's share rose to 53.3% from 50.1%, while CIT receipts dipped to 46.5% from 49.6%

'Slash petrol taxes, cheaper crude not reflecting in prices'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a bid to boost consumption by enhancing households' disposable incomes, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has urged the Centre to slash the excise duty levied on petrol and diesel, stressing that global crude oil prices have fallen more than 40% while retail prices of petrol in the capital have been reduced by just ₹1.8 per litre.

In addition to a cut in the high fuel taxes, CII has mooted granting some relief in income tax for those with taxable income of up to ₹20 lakh a year, raising the minimum wage under the rural employment guarantee scheme to ₹375 a day from the present level of ₹267, and increasing annual benefits under the PM Kisan scheme to ₹8,000 from ₹6,000.

Apart from these steps to boost consumption, mooted in pre-Budget consultations with Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra on Tuesday, CII president Sanjiv Puri also called for reforms in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) by switching to a three-tier rate structure and including items like petroleum, real estate and electricity into its ambit.

Mr. Puri mooted a social security fund for gig and platform workers, and the introduction of an employment-linked incentive scheme for sectors with high growth potential.

'Gold prices to slow jewellery consumption growth this FY'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The domestic jewellery consumption growth (in value terms) is expected to moderate to 6-8% in FY25 as compared with an expansion of 18% in FY24, due to sharp rise in gold prices and the consequent impact on consumer sentiment, ICRA said in a study.

After a muted volume growth of 2% and 4% in FY23 and FY24 respectively, the volume will contract in FY25, the credit rating agency added.

Fitch raises FY25 growth view, sees only one rate cut

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Fitch Ratings on Tuesday raised its FY25 GDP growth forecast for India to 7.2%, from 7% estimated earlier, citing higher consumer confidence despite an anticipated slowdown in new investments. It also pared its expectations of interest rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India to just one reduction of 25 basis points from two such cuts anticipated earlier.

Noting that India's rapid growth, reflected in a faster-than-expected 8.2% uptick in FY24, was underpinned by a fast expansion in investment, Fitch added a caveat that the economy's Gross Value-Added (GVA) at basic prices "is currently a better guide to underlying momentum and has been growing at just over 7%".

'Investments to slow'

Fitch reckoned that fixed investments would rise 7.2% this year, slowing from a 9% pace in FY24, before rebounding to a 7.8% uptick in 2025-26. GDP growth is expected to moderate to 6.5% next year and 6.2% in 2026-27, with consumer spending and investment remaining the key growth drivers.

"Signs of the... monsoon season being more normal should support growth and make inflation less volatile, though a recent heatwave poses a risk. We expect growth in later years to slow and approach our medium-term trend estimate," it said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	77,301	0.40
US Dollar	83.43	0.14
Gold	72,350	0.37
Brent oil	84.92	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3309.05	47.30
Adani Ports	1445.00	14.30
Apollo Hosp	6236.35	28.75
Asian Paints	2918.50	-3.10
Axis Bank	1191.90	10.85
Bajaj Auto	9918.20	-43.55
Bajaj Finserv	1597.95	6.20
Bajaj Finance	7334.70	-6.85
Bharti Airtel	1428.35	0.95
BPCL	630.90	4.25
Britannia Ind	5395.85	2.20
Cipla	1574.80	10.05
Coal India	489.05	2.10
Divis Lab	4564.50	-24.10
Dr Reddys Lab	5991.25	-94.00
Eicher Motors	4936.10	1.00
Grasim Ind	2457.55	-13.65
HCL Tech	1437.20	6.15
HDFC Bank	1607.80	10.90
HDFC Life	601.20	2.85
Hero MotoCorp	5754.85	-49.35
Hindalco	678.75	-4.85
Hind Unilever	2486.25	6.50
ICICI Bank	1122.85	17.20
IndusInd Bank	1507.90	5.55
Infosys	1498.20	9.30
ITC	428.75	-2.40
JSW Steel	925.35	4.20
Kotak Bank	1719.40	2.20
L&T	3689.20	1.40
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5089.60	57.05
M&M	2961.90	33.30
Maruti Suzuki	12560.95	-284.25
NestleIndia	2550.35	7.85
NTPC	369.65	1.20
ONGC	275.80	0.40
PowerGrid Corp	331.80	10.30
Reliance Ind	2962.05	6.95
SBI Life	1473.55	3.65
State Bank	844.90	5.70
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2829.75	97.60
Sun Pharma	1520.95	4.95
TataConsumerProduct	1126.90	14.45
Tata Motors	985.90	-7.50
Tata Steel	181.12	-2.03
TCS	3815.10	-16.95
Tech Mahindra	1371.35	-0.10
Titan	3589.00	58.95
UltraTech Cement	11119.05	-123.75
Wipro	491.85	14.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 18

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.21	83.53
Euro	89.18	89.53
British Pound	105.52	105.93
Japanese Yen (100)	52.61	52.82
Chinese Yuan	11.47	11.51
Swiss Franc	93.68	94.04
Singapore Dollar	61.44	61.69
Canadian Dollar	60.53	60.76
Malaysian Ringitt	17.65	17.73
Australian Dollar	55.06	55.28

Source:Indian Bank

Future Generali India Life declares ₹59.80 cr. bonus for FY24

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The payout, 12% higher compared with the FY23 bonus, will benefit over 1.01 lakh policyholders

Future Generali India Life Insurance Company has declared ₹59.80 crore bonus for 2023-24.

The payout, 12% higher compared with the FY23 bonus, will benefit over 1.01 lakh policyholders who have made investments in the company's participating products, the insurer said on Tuesday.

Beginning FY24, FGILI has decided grant terminal bonuses to policyholders who exit from reduced paid-up status, in addition to those with premium paying or fully paid policies, following the specified eligibility criteria.

"The declaration of the highest-ever participating bonus serves as evidence of our strong financial position," MD and CEO Alok Rungta said.

Bonuses are payments received in addition to the entitled basic sum assured. Life insurers allocate a portion of their profits to distribute these bonuses.

Macawber Beekay bags 3 NTPC 'green coal' projects

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Macawber Beekay Private Ltd., a waste-to-energy firm said it had bagged three 'green coal' projects from NTPC in Noida (Uttar Pradesh), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), and Hubbali (Karnataka).

The largest project with 900 tonnes per day (TPD) capacity would come up in Noida, while Bhopal and Hubbali would have 500 and 400 TPD respectively, the firm said in a release.

'Green coal' is produced from discarded fine coal. It helps halve sulphur emissions during combustion.

'Indian fintechs digitally disbursed loans worth ₹1,46,517 cr. in FY23-24'

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Fintech and digital lending firms in India have processed and sanctioned over 10 crore loans and carried out disbursements of ₹1,46,517 crore during FY23-24, the Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) said on Tuesday.

The disbursement volume and value grew year-on-year by 35% and 49%, respectively, reaching 10.19 crore loans totalling ₹1,46,517 crore in FY23-24, the industry body said.

The average ticket size for loans disbursed in FY23-24 stood at ₹12,648, compared with ₹11,094 a year earlier.

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T20 TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Virat Kohli holds the record for the most runs in a single edition of the T20 World Cup—319 runs in 2014. Which batter sits second with 317 runs in 2009?
2. Which is the only edition of the T20 World Cup to not have a single century scored?
3. Excluding this World Cup, along with Shakib Al Hasan, who is the only other bowler to have three four-wicket hauls in T20 World Cups?

Scan the code, to participate in the quiz and win exciting gift vouchers

Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. Kenya
2. Sri Lanka
3. Chris Gayle

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e-Tender Notice

No. K RIDE/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT21 Date: 15.06.2024
PACKAGE – C1A-S&T Utility Shifting
"Shifting of Signaling & Telecommunication underground utilities in KSR Bengaluru city Jn. to Yelahanka section via Yeshwanthpur, Lottegollahali of Bangalore Division to facilitate Bangalore Suburban Railway Project (BSRP) Corridor-1A".Last date for submission of bids **is 18/07/2024, IST 15:00 Hrs,** for details visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

No.: K RIDE/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT19 **Date**:15/06/2024
PACKAGE – C2A
"Construction of Eight (08 Nos) Stations i.e., Elevated Interchange (1 No), Elevated (3 Nos.) and At-Grade (4 Nos) BSRP Stations of Corridor-2 at Benniganahalli, Kasturi Nagar, Seva Nagar, Banaswadi, Nagawara, Kanaka Nagar, Hebbal, Mathikere, including Civil, Structural, Entry / Exit Structure, Steel Foot Over Bridge (FOB), Roof Structures, PEB Works, Architectural finishes, Plumbing, Façade, E&M Works and Detailed Design & Engineering (DDC) with` all allied works for Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project" (BSRP)".Last date for submission of bids **is 31/07/2024, IST 15:00 Hrs,** for details **visit https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- GENERAL MANAGER /Procurement/KRIDE

U.S.-grown Pima cotton production to likely increase

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

The U.S. expects higher production of high quality Pima cotton in the next marketing season, said Marc A. Lewkowitz, president and chief executive officer of Supima.

Mr. Lewkowitz, who is in India as part of a Cotton Council International delegation, told *The Hindu t*hat U.S.-grown Pima production in the current marketing season is 77,000 tonnes and for the next marketing season, it is estimated to be 1,10,000 tonnes.

"With India removing the import duty for extra long staple cotton, I am optimistic about the demand growing in India," he said.

'Construction equipment sector grew 20% in poll year'

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Dimitrov Krishnan

Despite an election year, India's $10 billion construction equipment (CE) industry has grown between 15% to 20% and market sentiment remains reasonably strong, said Dimitrov Krishnan, MD, Volvo CE India.

Traditionally, the market slows in an election yea. But this growth has taken the industry by surpise, Mr. Krishnan added.

He said, despite a slowdown in industrial growth globally India continued to grow in recent years.

Mr. Krishnan reckoned the government would expand on its "sizable" infrastructure spending in the upcoming Union Budget, as "buying sentiments are strong and the policy environment is likely to be stable."

He said the CE sector was expecting a 10% to 15% growth in FY25, backed by strong growth in the second half of CY24.

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E-mail : edrugs.kmscl@kerala.gov.in,
website : www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No.KMSCL/ED/06/2024 Date : 18.06.2024

Re- TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited from manufacturers/direct importers / loan licensees on behalf of Department of Health, Govt of Kerala for the procurement of Biolarvicide: Bacillus Thuringiensis Israeliensis AS 5% (BTI) for NVBDCP for the year 2023-2024.

Sl. No.	Tender No. and Date	Category
1.	KMSCL/ED/BTI-NVBDCP/RT/2024/013 dtd. 18/06/2024	Insecticide

Last date and time of online uploading of tender - 06.07.2024, 5.00 pm.
Date and time of opening of Technical bid - 08.07.2024 11.00 am.

Tenders shall be downloaded and submitted online through the e-tender portal **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**.

(Sd/-) MANAGING DIRECTOR (Tender Inviting Authority)

BANGKOK

Thailand approves same-sex marriage in a historic move

AFP

Thailand on Tuesday became the first country in Southeast Asia to legalise same-sex marriage, in a historic parliamentary vote hailed as a "victory" by campaigners. The upper house Senate gave final approval — by 130 votes to four, with 18 abstentions — to changes to the marriage law allowing same-sex couples to tie the knot. AFP

JERUSALEM

Thousands of Israelis turn out for anti-government demonstrations

AFP

Thousands of Israelis protested against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government on Monday over the Gaza war and failure to negotiate the release of hostages held in the Palestinian territory. Protesters travelled to Jerusalem to rally outside the Israeli parliament and Mr. Netanyahu's residence on Monday. AFP

KYIV

Kyiv claims its drones hit a Russian oil facility, sparking a huge blaze

REUTERS

Ukraine claimed responsibility on Tuesday for an overnight drone attack on a Russian oil facility that started a massive blaze in the latest long-range strike by Kyiv's forces on a border region. The attack set fire to an oil reservoir in Russia's Rostov region and more than 200 firefighters were at the scene. AP

LAHORE

36 Ahmadi community members held in Pak. for animal sacrifice

AFP

At least 36 members of the minority Ahmadi community were held in Pakistan for sacrificing animals on Id as they have been declared non-Muslims in the country, a community leader said on Tuesday. Jamaat-e-Ahmadiyya Pakistan's Amir Mahmood blamed the radical Islamist party TLP for fanning hatred against Ahmadis. PTI

'Israeli intel had warned of Hamas's plans before attack'

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

An Israeli intelligence brief prepared weeks before Hamas's October 7 attack had warned military officials of the Palestinian group's preparations for an assault, according to Israeli public broadcaster Kan.

The Israeli military's signals intelligence unit drafted the brief in September. It said the Unit 8200 intelligence document included details of elite Hamas fighters training for hostage-taking and plans for raids on military positions and Israeli communities.

The brief said the Palestinian militants were aiming to take hundreds of hostages. "The expected number of hostages: 200-250 people", the brief said.

Biden planning to ease immigration pathway for spouses of U.S. citizens

While the new rules do not expand the eligibility for permanent residency, they seek to streamline the process for those who already qualify, and will do away with the requirement that they leave the country as part of the application process

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden on Tuesday will unveil new rules easing the process for undocumented spouses of U.S. citizens to obtain permanent residency status, the White House said.

The Biden administration has been trying to walk a thin line on immigration, a key issue for many Americans ahead of November's presidential election.

The Democrat is seeking to be tougher on illegal migrants, while also contrasting himself with the harsher policies of Republican rival Donald Trump.

New stride: Officials estimate the new rules will benefit around 5,00,000 people and 50,000 stepchildren of U.S. citizens. REUTERS

The new rules will not expand eligibility for permanent residency, but rather streamline the process for those who already qualify.

That includes by removing a requirement they leave the country as part of the application process.

The new rules would apply to those present in the country for at least 10 years and married to a U.S. citizen before June 17, 2024 – which the administration estimates to include some 5,00,000 people.

In addition, some 50,000 stepchildren of U.S. citizens would be eligible.

Those approved would be granted work authorisation and the right to stay in the United States for up to three years while they apply for permanent residency.

Once someone has permanent residency – also known as a green card – that person could in theory later apply for citizenship.

"What we are announcing are potentially streamlined processes... (to) minimise the bureaucracy, minimise the hardship that having to leave the country creates," a senior administration official told reporters ahead of the announcement.

However, "only Congress can deliver... comprehensive reform of our immigration and asylum laws," another official added.

A previous, bipartisan immigration package pushed by Mr. Biden in Congress would have introduced the strictest policies in decades, but fell apart when Republicans walked away from the deal.

Jaishankar to 'review' progress of projects during Sri Lanka visit

Friendly talks: S. Jaishankar with Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe in New Delhi on June 10. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will arrive in Colombo on Thursday, in his first official visit to a neighbouring country since the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA)'s coalition government assumed charge in India earlier this month.

Confirming his Indian counterpart's visit, Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ali Sabry told *The Hindu* on Tuesday that projects that India and Sri Lanka have agreed to jointly implement will be reviewed. "We will review progress in projects in various sectors such as renewable energy and connectivity, and look at ways to expedite them," Mr. Sabry said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's possible visit to Sri Lanka this year will also be discussed, he added.

In addition to holding talks with the Sri Lankan leadership, Mr. Jaishankar will meet politicians across Sri Lanka's political parties. After his visit to Sri Lanka, Mr. Jaishankar is scheduled to travel to Mauritius.

On June 10, Mr. Jaishankar called on President Ranil Wickremesinghe, who was in New Delhi for the swearing in ceremony of Mr. Modi. Following the meeting, Mr. Wickremesinghe's office said Mr. Jaishankar spoke on the "swift resumption of development projects initiated in Sri Lanka with Indian investments, which had been halted midway." Further, Mr. Jaishankar highlighted plans for an industrial zone in the eastern district of Trincomalee to be established by the Indian government, which "will attract numerous Indian investors and potentially investors from other countries".

In a joint vision statement released during Mr. Wickremesinghe's visit to New Delhi in July 2023, the two countries noted that the ongoing cooperation in developing the Trincomalee oil tank farms was "a reflection of our endeavour to develop mutually beneficial cooperation projects".

Further, they agreed to develop Trincomalee as "a national and regional hub of industry, energy and economic activity".

Chinese forces seize two Philippines boats in disputed shoal

Associated Press
MANILA

Chinese forces seized two Philippine rubber boats that were delivering food and other supplies to a military outpost in a disputed South China Sea shoal in a tense confrontation in which some Filipino navy personnel were injured, Philippine security officials said on Tuesday.

The U.S. renewed a warning on Tuesday that it is obligated to defend the Philippines, a treaty ally, a day after the hours-long hostilities in Second Thomas Shoal. The shoal has been occupied by a small Philippine navy contingent aboard a long-grounded warship that has been closely monitored by China's coast guard and navy in a years-long stand-off.

There is fear that territorial disputes in the South China Sea could escalate and pit the United States and China in a larger conflict. China and the Philippines blamed each other for Monday's hostilities, the most serious in recent months.

Russian President Putin makes a rare visit to North Korea, an old ally

Associated Press
SEOUL

Ahead of the trip, he said the two nations want to cooperate closely to overcome U.S.-led sanctions

President Vladimir Putin arrived in North Korea early on Wednesday, Russian news agencies reported, after he said the two countries want to cooperate closely to overcome U.S.-led sanctions in the face of intensifying confrontations with Washington. Mr. Putin was met at Pyongyang's airport by North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

Mr. Putin's comments appeared in an op-ed piece in North Korean state media hours before his expected arrival for a two-day visit as the countries deepen their alignment in the face of separate, intensifying confrontations with Washington.

In the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, the streets were decorated with Mr. Putin's portraits and Russian flags. A banner hung on a building said: "We warmly welcome the President of the Russian Federation."

Mr. Putin, who will be making his first trip to North Korea in 24 years, said he highly appreciates its firm support of his military action in Ukraine. He said the countries would continue to "resolutely oppose" what he described as Western ambitions "to hinder the establishment of a multipolar world order based on justice, mutual respect for sovereignty, considering each other's interests." Mr. Putin also said Russia and North Korea will develop trade and payment systems "that are not controlled by the West" and jointly oppose sanctions against the countries, which he described as "illegal, unilateral restrictions."

Future cooperation

North Korea is under heavy UN Security Council economic sanctions over its nuclear weapons and missile programs, while Russia is also grappling with sanctions by the United States and its Western partners over its aggression in Ukraine.

Mr. Putin said the countries will also expand cooperation in tourism, culture and education.

Sport

Turkiye puts it past Georgia; Mbappe injury scare for France as it beats Austria

UEFA EURO2024 GERMANY

Reuters
DORTMUND

Teenager Arder Guler's superb long-range strike helped Turkiye get off to a victorious start to its Euro 2024 campaign with a 3-1 win over debutant Georgia here on Tuesday.

Mert Muldur gave Turkiye the lead in the 25th minute, smashing a swerving volley past a helpless Georgia goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili from the edge of the box.

Georgia, playing its first major international tournament, equalised in the 32nd minute when Georges Mikautadze turned Giorgi Kochorashvili's cross past Mert Gunok.

The 19-year-old Guler, coming into the tournament fresh from a run of goals for Real Madrid, scored after 65 minutes, curling an unstoppable shot into the top corner. Georgia pressed for a late equaliser but to no avail before Kerem Akturkoglu broke away and passed into an empty net in added time to make it 3-1.

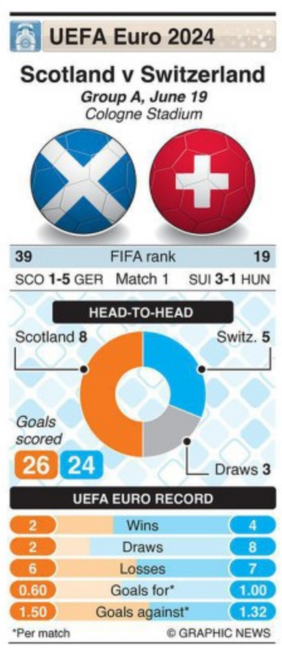
Meanwhile on Monday, France delivered a 100th win for manager Didier Deschamps as it beat a tenacious and well organised Austria side 1-0, courtesy of an own goal, in their opening Group D match at Dusseldorf but talisman Kylian Mbappe suffered a worrying injury on Monday.

Firing away: Guler curled an unstoppable shot for Turkiye's second goal. REUTERS

On his 80th appearance for *Les Bleus*. the 25-year-old's wing wizardry broke Austria's resistance in the 38th minute when his dribble past three defenders and cross caused the unfortunate Wober to head past Patrick Pentz.

But Mbappe also wasted a glorious chance to make things more comfortable for his side in the 54th minute, surprising virtually everyone in the stadium as he shot wide after bursting through on goal.

He ended up bloodied and bruised after taking a shoulder to the face in the closing minutes before being shown a yellow card having sat down on the pitch shortly after coming back on after receiving treatment. Mbappe was finally substituted in a chaotic end to the match.



The results:

Group F: Turkiye 3 (Muldur 25, Guler 65, Akturkoglu 90+7) bt Georgia 1 (Mikautadze 32).

Group D: Austria 0 lost to France 1 (Wober 38-og).

BANG BANG

Windies scores 36 runs in an over against Afghanistan

PTI

West Indies equalled the T20 World Cup record for most runs in an over during the game against Afghanistan in Gros Islet on Tuesday. Nicholas Pooran and West Indies scored 36 runs off Azmatullah Omarzai's over **(6, 4nb, 5w, 0, 4lb, 4, 6, 6)**, equalling India's record set in 2007 by Yuvraj Singh with six sixes against England.

ADAPTABILITY

One has to bat according to the conditions, says Suryakumar

K.R. DEEPAK

It is adaptability that makes Suryakumar Yadav the world's top-ranked T20I batter. "One has to bat according to the conditions and change his game based on what the team needs. You have to display good batsmanship, especially if the pitch is difficult," he said at a press conference in Barbados on Tuesday.

PRICELESS GIFT

Hall gives a copy of his biography *Answering The Call* to Kohli

ASHWIN ACHAL

West Indies fast bowling legend Wesley Hall was greeted by Indian batter Virat Kohli at the Kensington Oval at Barbados on Tuesday. Hall gave a copy of his biography *Answering The Call* to Kohli, and wished the Indian team success at the ongoing T20 World Cup. Hall also praised Kohli for his expert batsmanship.

PERMANENT SCAR

Australia's Warner says the 2018 'sandpaper-gate' will never go away

REUTERS

David Warner says he will forever be tarnished by the 2018 "sandpaper-gate" scandal, as he ponders his legacy ahead of an impending international retirement. "It's going to be inevitable that when people talk about me in 20 or 30 years' time, there will always be that sandpaper scandal," Warner told *Cricket Australia*.

Men in Blue fresh and ready to show their might with the bat

If 130 seemed like gold on the wickets in New York, a more IPL-style total can be expected in the West Indies; openers Rohit and Kohli can play with freedom in the PowerPlay while Pant will relish the opportunity to take on the bowlers

T20 WORLD CUP

Ashwin Achal
BARBADOS

Different landscape: Rohit and Kohli will look to get going on the quality pitches in the Caribbean. K.R. DEEPAK

For the Indian batters, the USA leg of the ICC men's T20 World Cup was a rough ride. Runs did not come easy at New York, as the seamers exploited favourable conditions to the hilt.

Good times ahead

Having made it out safely to the West Indies for the Super 8 stage, it is now finally smooth sailing. Smiles were present all around as the players warmed up with light fielding routines at the Kensington Oval. Virat Kohli was all laughs as he showed his football skills to his mates.

A short huddle was followed by a fielding session. The players perhaps wanted a feel of the outfield after heavy rains lashed the city the previous night.

Kohli went in to bat at nets, and the throwdown specialists offered him a few full balls. Crisp drives, and Kohli was on his way. The former captain will feel that he is due to escape a horror run.

At the Kensington Oval, the site of India's first Super 8 game against Afghanistan, stroke-making is considerably easier. The last match held here, between Australia and England around 10 days ago, was a high-scorer. Australia breached the 200-mark - unthinkable in New York - while England responded with 165 for six. These will seem like joyous numbers for India, which could only manage scores of 97/2, 119, 111/3 in its Group-A matches.

Even better tidings await at Antigua, where India will face Bangladesh on Saturday. The city has been affected by rain, but when play has been held, the big hits and bold swings have come thick and fast. England and Australia have had a great time of it in Antigua, taking apart the minnows ruthlessly.

The Indian team will now have to rethink the par-score. If 130 seemed like gold in New York, then a more IPL-style total can be expected in the West Indies. Openers Rohit Sharma and Kohli can bat with freedom in the PowerPlay, and gain maximum reward for their shots.

This was not the case earlier, when Kohli fell flat when trying to force the pace. Rishabh Pant needs no second invitation to take on the bowlers. He can come good in any part of the world.

The spinners will have a bigger role to play in the Caribbean. Axar Patel kept it tight in the group stage, but Ravindra Jadeja found it hard to extract any purchase. If Jadeja stays in the XI against Afghanistan, expect the southpaw to give the ball a fair rip. The Indian team, restrained thus far, can now go full tilt.

Nicholas Pooran stars in WI's win over Afghanistan

Ayan Acharya
GROS ISLET (ST. LUCIA)

Packing a punch: Nicholas Pooran went on the rampage, smashing a 53-ball 98 studded with six fours and eight sixes. PTI

Nicholas Pooran's power-packed innings at the Daren Sammy National Cricket Stadium on Monday night ended dramatically: a direct hit from Azmatullah Omarzai caught Pooran short of his first T20 World Cup century by two runs, leaving him on all fours with the stumps in disarray.

His partner, Andre Russell, expressed the collective disappointment of West Indies fans as Pooran fell after a sensational 53-ball knock.

However, he had just laid the foundation for West Indies' 104-run victory against Afghanistan in the final Group-C match, securing an unbeaten entry into the Super 8s.

Chasing 219, Afghanistan's hope dwindled rapidly after slipping from 45 for one to 63 for five within the first 10 overs.

Obed McCoy's three for 14, including three wickets in eight balls, and Akeal Hosein's wicket maiden in the first over derailed the Afghan chase.

In elite club

Earlier, West Indies, after being asked to bat, systematically dismantled Afghanistan's bowlers.

Johnson Charles attacked left-arm quick Fazalhaq Farooqi and Azmatullah Omarzai, exploiting the third man region with multiple boundaries.

Rashid Khan's decision to keep a deep backward point instead of a squarer third man allowed Charles to exploit that gap.

Pooran came in at three, and immediately capitalised on the lack of swing, racing to 27 off nine balls as Omarzai conceded 36 runs in his second over – the joint-most runs scored in an over in the T20 World Cup, after Yuvraj Singh's six sixes against Stuart Broad in 2007.

Early action

This forced Rashid into early action in the PowerPlay – not his forte – and he went for 12 as well.

By the end of the first six overs, Pooran and Charles had propelled West Indies to 92 for one, the highest PowerPlay score in men's T20 World Cups.

Naveen-ul-Haq ended the 38-ball, 80-run partnership by dismissing Charles for 43 off 27 balls. Pooran then slowed down as Noor Ahmad brought some control.

However, he accelerated again with skipper Rovman Powell, reaching his half-century off 31 balls and then hammered Rashid for 24 runs in the 18th over.

Powell contributed significantly in the 38-ball 64-run stand before falling to a slower ball. But by then, the result was a foregone conclusion.

The scores: West Indies 218/5 in 20 overs (Pooran 98, Charles 43, Powell 26, Hope 25, Naib 2/14) bt Afghanistan 114 in 16.2 overs (Zadran 38, McCoy 3/14, Hosein 2/21, Gudakesh Motie 2/28).
Toss: Afghanistan.
PoM: Pooran.

What went wrong for Pakistan, New Zealand and Sri Lanka?

Bhavin Shivaa
CHENNAI

Former T20 World Cup champions Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and regular contender New Zealand failed to advance to the Super 8, rather shockingly, in the ongoing edition of the T20 World Cup.

Pakistan, along with India, was expected to progress from Group-A, but a shock Super Over loss to USA and a failed run chase against its neighbour ruined its chances.

The Lankans and Kiwis were in tougher groups. While the former was in Group-D with Bangladesh and South Africa, Kane Williamson's men were drawn with two-time champion West Indies and Afghanistan.

Both teams would have hoped to advance, but subpar performances meant that they were on the flight back home before the Super 8 stage.

All three sides will rue the missed chances. The precarious nature of the pitches in the United States will definitely be a point of discussion for the teams that played their group stage games in New York.

Final standings

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
GROUP-A						
India (Q)	4	3	0	1	7	1.137
USA (Q)	4	2	1	1	5	0.127
Pakistan	4	2	2	0	4	0.294
Canada	4	1	2	1	3	-0.493
Ireland	4	0	3	1	1	-1.293
GROUP-B						
Australia (Q)	4	4	0	0	8	2.791
England (Q)	4	2	1	1	5	3.611
Scotland	4	2	1	1	5	1.255
Namibia	4	1	3	0	2	-2.585
Oman	4	0	4	0	0	-3.062
GROUP-C						
West Indies (Q)	4	4	0	0	8	3.257
Afghanistan (Q)	4	3	1	0	6	1.835
New Zealand	4	2	2	0	4	0.415
Uganda	4	1	3	0	2	-4.510
Papua New Guinea	4	0	4	0	0	-1.268
GROUP-D						
South Africa (Q)	4	4	0	0	8	0.470
Bangladesh (Q)	4	3	1	0	6	0.616
Sri Lanka	4	1	2	1	3	0.863
Netherlands	4	1	3	0	2	-1.358
Nepal	4	0	3	1	1	-0.542

Q: Qualified

Today's match

USA vs South Africa

Antigua, 8 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD T20Is

First Meeting

Pakistan and Sri Lanka were rattled by the inconsistent surface at the Nassau County Stadium and would believe that different circumstances might have yielded different results. Not only the wickets, the weather gods also intervened in a few matches.

Some tactical blunders, like dropping Tim Southee – the all-time top wicket-taker in T20Is – in the crucial encounter against Afghanistan and a poor performance in the death overs against Rovman Powell's men, sealed the Kiwis' fate as they suffered reverses in their first two fixtures.

It was almost a similar script for Wanindu Hasaranga's men who, after two losses and a No Result against Nepal, finished third in their group with three points.

Even as the heavyweights faltered, the lesser-fancied teams punched above their weight. No one would have backed USA to qualify at the start of the tournament, but a spirited show saw the co-host defy expectations and beat the 2009 champion Pakistan while making it to the Super 8.

Gambhir and Raman interviewed for India head coach post

Gambhir and Raman. FILE PHOTOS: K.R. DEEPAK & M. VEDHAN

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Gautam Gambhir and W.V. Raman, former India opening batters, were interviewed on Tuesday for the post of India's men's cricket team's head coach. The duo appeared virtually for the interviews conducted by the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC).

The CAC was chaired by former India batter Ashok Malhotra.

It is understood that Malhotra and his two colleagues – Sulakshana Naik and Jatin Paranjape – were impressed by both the presentations.

Raman – with his rich experience coaching the India women's side, a long stint at the National Cricket Academy, various state sides along with being a batting coach in the Indian Premier League – was an automatic choice to be shortlisted for the interview.

Gambhir, meanwhile, has emerged as a clear front-runner as Rahul Dravid's successor. After being the team mentor with Lucknow Super Giants in IPL 2022 and 2023, he helmed the Kolkata Knight Riders' to the IPL title in the same capacity last month.

Despite his lack of experience in coaching in formats other than T20, the BCCI hierarchy along with the CAC is understood to be in favour of him.

Neeraj claims gold at Paavo Nurmi Games

Marking his territory: Neeraj came back strongly after his injury layoff. X@WORLDATHLETICS

Press Trust of India
TURKU (FINLAND)

India's Neeraj Chopra snared his maiden gold medal at the Paavo Nurmi Games here on Tuesday, returning to action in style after being laid low for a month due to a niggle.

Neeraj, who claimed the silver here in 2022, produced the winning effort of 85.97m in his third attempt to lead the field for a major part of the competition, which also featured 19-year-old German prodigy Max Dehning who is the youngest member of the 90m club.

Home favourite Toni Keranen claimed the silver medal with a best throw of 84.19m, while his compatriot and last edition's gold-medallist Oliver Helander took the third spot with 83.96m.

The 26-year-old Neeraj came into this event following a second-place finish in the Doha Diamond League and a gold in the Federation Cup in Bhubaneswar last month.

INBRIEF

Raonic sets record for most aces in a three-set match

Milos Raonic sent down a record 47 aces and saved two match points while defeating Cameron Norrie in the first round at Queen's Club tennis in London on Monday. It is an ATP record for a three-set match since the statistic was kept from 1991. The previous record was 45 aces sent down by Ivo Karlovic against Tomas Berdych in Halle in 2015. Raonic's previous best was 38 in 2011.

Priyansh and Jyothi best Indian archers at Antalya WC

Priyansh and V. Jyothi Surekha were the best among Indian men and women respectively in the compound qualification rounds of the Archery World Cup Stage-3 in Antalya, Turkey, on Tuesday. Priyansh placed fourth with 710 points, while Abhishek Verma was fifth with an identical score of 710. Prathamesh Fuge was 20th with 705. Jyothi was second after scoring 705 points. She was followed by Aditi Swami (10th, 699) and Parneet Kaur (14th, 696). India topped the rankings in men (2125), women (2100) and mixed team (1415) categories.

Tondaiman gets the nod for Paris Olympics

Prithviraj Tondaiman has got the nod for the trap entry for the Paris Olympics as the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) announced the selection on Tuesday. Bhowneesh Mendiratta had won the Olympic quota in men's trap, but Tondaiman was able to nose ahead following consistent performances and the best fare during the Olympic selection trials earlier. Rajeshwari Kumari in women's trap and Anantjeet Singh Naruka in men's trap, apart from Raiza Dillon and Maheshwari Chauhan were able to retain their berth for Paris after having the Olympic quota. Anantjeet and Maheshwari will compete in the mixed skeet as well. With one of the women's pistol quota being swapped, Shreyasi Singh has been proposed as the second candidate in women's trap.

Paddler Snehit wins bronze in BRICS Games

S. Fidel R. Snehit won the individual bronze in the BRICS Games table tennis competition in Kazan (Russia). Snehit lost to title winner Kirill Skachkov 9-11, 8-11, 6-11 in the semifinals. "It was a great tournament for me this year. I was in good rhythm till the semifinals. I couldn't handle Kirill in front of his home crowd" said Snehit. Russia defeated India 2-0 in tennis men's semifinals. In women's section, India downed Uzbekistan 2-0 to set up a last-four clash against Belarus.

The results:
Tennis: Men (semifinals): Russia bt India 2-0 (Ilia Simakin bt Karan Singh 7-6(1), 1-6, 6-0; Daniel Panarin bt Chirac Duhan 6-1, 6-2).
Women (quarterfinals): India bt Uzbekistan 2-0 (Vaishnavi Dakar bt Sabrina Olimjonova 6-3, 6-3; Akanksha Nitture bt Maftunab Kahramonova 6-0, 6-4).

India will look for unassailable lead against South Africa

The Proteas will need a massive upgrade in their performance, having let the host slip out of their grip in the first ODI; they will have a full squad to choose from this time around, after illness forced at least three members out of Sunday's fixture

CRICKET

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Fine tuning: The think-tank will seek improvements from India's top-order batters with the intention of sewing up the series. K. MURALI KUMAR

Following the commanding 143-run victory in the first ODI, India will look to sew up the series when it meets South Africa in the second match, at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Wednesday.

In the first encounter, Smriti Mandhana carried the batting with a fine century (117), and was assisted by all-rounders Deepti Sharma (37) and Pooja Vastrakar (31 n.o.).

The bowlers, led by debutant Asha Sobhana (4/21), then pinned the visitors down.

If anything, the think-tank will seek improvements from its top-order batters.

Opener Shafali Verma has totalled 21 runs from her previous six visits to the crease in ODIs while skipper Harmanpreet Kaur has 41 from five.

It is imperative that the duo comes good.

Pooja Vastrakar – clutching her left knee while fielding and exiting the field in the opening tie – caused some worry, but the 24-year-old bowled in the nets on Tuesday though it remains to be seen if she is match-fit.

South Africa, on the other hand, will need a massive upgrade in its performance. After letting India off the hook from 99 for five, its batting came undone as it folded for 122. Tazmin Brits, Sune Luus and Marizanne Kapp all got starts, but did not make them count.

One upside will be that the Proteas will have a full squad to choose from. Pacer Nadine de Klerk, in the pre-match briefing, said that the illness that had kept at least three women from playing Sunday's game, including herself, was a thing of the past. The 24-year-old, however, was tight-lipped about Kapp's return to bowling following a back injury.

This being a weekday fixture, there may not be that many supporters in the stands.

The ones who do turn up will seek their money's worth while all along hoping for the rain to stay away like it has all week.

Asha Sobhana. K. MURALI KUMAR

'WPL and RCB have played a major role in my life'

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

India leggie Asha Sobhana credited Women's Premier League and Royal Challengers Bangalore for the turnaround in her cricketing fortunes.

The 33-year-old was an integral part of the RCB side that won the WPL in March and has since made her debut for India in both white-ball formats.

"WPL and RCB have played a major role in my life," Sobhana said on Tuesday, ahead of the second ODI against South Africa here. "It was not easy for me to come to international level. Playing in such crowded stadiums... that experience RCB gave me.

"And the Chinnaswamy Stadium has been very special, even before I started playing for RCB, from my under-19 days. Whenever I have bowled here, I have got some advantage," Sobhana said about the ground at which she marked her ODI debut on Sunday with a four-wicket haul (4/21).

Centenary of the man who changed cricket and society

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

"Who is the most important cricketer to have played the game?" The question, asked by a cricket lover (as opposed to a mere fan) had me for a moment. A list began forming in my head: W.G. Grace, Victor Trumper, Don Bradman, Ranjitsinhji, Jack Hobbs, C.B. Fry, Garry Sobers, Imran Khan, Mike Brearley... and finally settled on the answer: Sir Frank Worrell, who would have turned 100 on August 1.

Grace laid down the grammar of the game and was one of its great all-rounders, Trumper and Sobers were geniuses, Hobbs scored more first class runs than anybody else, Bradman's average is more than 35 runs ahead of the next best, Imran became Prime Minister and for a while was the most important man in his country. Brearley is the game's greatest captain, a philosopher and psychoanalyst with a "degree in people".

Yet, Worrell, who fits into this group as a top player – "an innings by him knows no dawn," wrote Neville Cardus, "it begins at high noon" – was the ideal cricketer. His career was the response to the game's most famous question - C.L.R. James's 'what do they know of cricket who only cricket know?' It was rich, its influence wide-ranging and lasting. He was the dean of students at the University of the West Indies, a senator in Jamaica, a natural diplomat and a leader of men.

Unifier

By unifying disparate island-countries and building a world-class team, he ensured "West Indies" became a single entity in the sport. As Hilary Beckles, Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies, wrote, "Societies in the West Indies, and the wider cricketing world, were irretrievably altered by him. Neither before nor since has a cricketer had such a profound, lasting impact on the values of the game."

James, then the editor of *The Nation*, led the campaign to have Worrell made captain. When Worrell, the first black man to lead in a series, took the team to Australia in 1960-61, he found an ally in rival skipper Richie Benaud. The teams played attractive cricket to pump life into the sport after it had become overly defensive the previous decade. Brisbane saw the first Tied Test. Lakhs of fans lined up the streets in Melbourne to wish Worrell and his team goodbye.

"I want us to play as a team on the field, and live as a family off it," he told his players. When he asked his dangerous fast bowler Roy Gilchrist (who was "completely lacking in conscience," according to one writer) not to bowl a bouncer, he obeyed. In fact, the bowler sometimes drove over to his captain's residence for advice on shirts to buy.

Giving back

When Worrell was given an honorary doctorate by the Punjab University in1967, among those he spoke to was Bishan Bedi. The Worrell philosophy of captaincy was probably discussed, for as Bedi's colleague team Madan Lal told me, "Bedi was not just the captain, he was a total guide telling us what to eat, what to read and how to carry ourselves."

At the ceremony, Worrell spoke of the concept of giving back.

On that lecture tour, Worrell played a crucial role in getting West Indies and India to resume a Test which had been held up by a riot (tickets in excess of the capacity were sold, and there were running battles between the police and the spectators).

The West Indies had decided to abandon the match and return home. Worrell asked to speak to the team. He told them how embarrassing it would be to the Indian people if they did that.

By then, Worrell was aware of his leukemia. He died just weeks later. He was 42.

Worrell finished with an average of just under 50 from 51 Tests, batting with an elegance and grace that made it special. He claimed 69 wickets with his left arm medium pace, besides.

Impressive for its time, but the more significant contribution was that, in the words of James, "he was possessed of an almost unbridled passion for social equality....his unobtrusive skill, his reserve and his dignity made him a great favourite...he had shown the West Indian mastery of what Western civilization had to teach..."

Arjun takes the honours

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

India's highest-rated chess player GM Arjun Erigaisi continued his top run as he dominated the 10-player field to win the Stepan Avagyan Memorial 2024 on Monday in Jermuk, Armenia, with a round to spare. He tallied 6.5 points in nine rounds.

With four wins and five draws, Arjun gained 7.2 Elo rating points.

His live rating of 2778.1 helped him retain the World No. 4 spot behind Magnus Carlsen, Hikaru Nakamura and Fabiano Caruana.

BENGALURU ROUND UP

Bharatesh bowls Malleswaram Gymkhana to victory

Bharatesh R. Gowda scalped six wickets (six for 18) as Malleswaram Gymkhana thrashed Rajajinagar Crickets by 163 runs in the KSCA (Group I) U-19 inter-club tournament.

The scores: SUCC (1) 233/9 in 50 overs (N. Preetham 90, R.V. Rohit 79, R.A. Sri Praghajeeth 5/51) lost to Social Cricketers 235/5 in 46.1 overs (V. Lokaksha 120 n.o., Aaron K. Joseph 32).

The Bangalore Cricketers 157 in 39 overs (B.S. Gurukiran 3/30, Bawin Abhishek 3/26) lost to Bangalore Indian 161/7 in 37 overs (H.N. Rohan 27, K.Y. Pawan 39, R. Anirudh 47).

Jayanagar Cricketers 191 in 42.5 overs (Sanmay Rudrawadi 39, Pulin Chaudhari 29, P. Venkatesh 43, Shashank Kiran 4/28, Vikash Kumar 3/33) lost to Herons 150/3 in 32.2 overs (Aryan Inchal 77, Akshay A. Kamath 62 n.o.) [Target revised to 149 from 39 overs because of rain].

Gandhinagar Cricketers 86 in 28 overs (S. Raviteja 33 n.o., Rahul Bellad 3/21, Krishav Somasundar 5/27) lost to Sir Syed Cricketers 90/2 in 22 overs (N. Bhuvan Gowda 26, Krishav Somasundar 50 n.o.).

Malleswaram Gymkhana 253/8 in 47 overs (Ishaan Nayak 38, S.K. Jeevan 75, Saksham S. Naik 70, Aakarsh Uktha Maiya 3/38) bt Rajajinagar Cricketers 90 in 31.2 overs (S. Abhiraj 60, Bharatesh R. Gowda 6/18) [Match reduced to 47 overs per side because of wet outfield].

Cambridge 225 in 38.2 overs (Pratheek 117, R. Rohit 3/35, M.G. Shiva Guru Rakshith 3/43) bt Engrades 207 in 36.5 overs (R. Monish Karthik 89, S. Aditya 3/35).

Dooravani Cricketers (1) 83 in 33.4 overs (B. Srikanth 37 n.o., Sujay S. Kulkarni 3/20, Susheel R. Udupi 3/8) lost to Bangalore SC 84/1 in 5.1 overs (Susheel R. Udupi 39 n.o., S.J. Aadharsh 33).

FUCC (1) 339/7 in 50 overs (Ravi Kairav Reddy 74, Pranav R. Babu 68, A. Siddharth 39, Siddesh A. Asalkar 49, V. Saatwik 25, Pavan R. Sheshagiri 27 n.o.) bt Wadiyar 191 in 47.4 overs (Nishanth Reddy 25, C. Barath 47, A. Arjun 52, Ronak Yelwal 3/33, A. Siddharth 3/26).

Lions 102 in 34.4 overs (M. Jayan Samyog 34, Sunaada S. Acharya 3/17, Samarth S. Hosoor 3/6) lost to Jolly Cricketers 103/4 in 32.5 overs (J. Aman 27, Samarth S. Hosoor 52).

BUCC (1) 280/8 in 50 overs (Akash Shetty 78, Aryan Mawa 95, Yuvaan Jain 5/40) bt Jayanagar United Cricketers 211 in 45.1 overs (Dhruv Shetty 48, Siddharth Gurav 40, K.P. Aryan 4/52).

SUCC (2) 369/8 in 50 overs (M.B. Shivam 47, R. Shiv 128, V. Nabhas 90, Leonel Andre Prabhakar 4/78) bt Eleven Brother's, Magadi 129 in 38.5 overs (K. Clarence Prathap Raj 64, Abdul Shymrid Changez 26, Shridhar Jagatap 3/20, Dheeraj J. Gowda 3/28).

Bangalore Occasionals 301/5 in 50 overs (A.B. Kushal Keshav 31, Manas A. Balaji 55, R. Shishir 37, Ansh Aima 112 n.o.) bt Jaidur Cricketers 73 in 22 overs (Huzaifa M. Bagi 5/32, P. Sri Bhagath 3/21).

Hockey trials

Hockey Karnataka will conduct selection trials for the State junior and sub-junior men's and women's teams for the Hockey India South Zone Championships 2024. The junior competition will be held in Kadapa, AP, from July 10 to 17 while the sub-junior event will be in Kollam from July 19 to 26.

Those born on or after January 1, 2006 are eligible for the junior category and those born after January 1, 2009 for sub-junior category.

The trials will be held at the Hockey Stadium in Shanthinagar from 9 a.m. onwards and on the following dates – junior men (June 24), junior women (June 25), sub-junior men (June 26) and sub-junior women (June 27).

One for the album: The various Karnataka-based medallists at Yonex-Sunrise all-India sub-junior ranking badminton tournament held in Hyderabad. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Brace by Shaan and Vaishnav

Shaan and Vaishnav scored a brace each as Rising Star HC defeated Germanite HA 7-1 in the Travancore Cup hockey tournament here on Tuesday.

The results: Kolar District HA 7 (Karnamurthy 1, Poovarasan 4, Ram 9, Ravi Bharathi 13, Karthick 28, Periyaswamy 33, Calendar 38) bt Southern Alpha SA 0; Rising Star HC 7 (Shaan 18, 22, Vaishnav 24, 40, Kalidass 35, A. Rajdeep 45, Yogendra 38) bt Germanite HA 1 (Johanth Antonio 39).

Dhyan wins boys' under-17 title

Karnataka's Dhyan Santosh won the boys' singles under-17 title at the Yonex-Sunrise All India sub-junior ranking badminton tournament held in Hyderabad.

In under-17 mixed doubles, Manish Reddy and Aditi Deepak Raj secured the gold. Odisha's Tanvi Patri, who trains at the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy here, won the under-17 and under-15 girls' singles titles.

The results:
U-17: Boys: Dhyan Santosh (Kar) bt Prateek Koundily 15-21, 20-22, 21-18; Tanvi Patri bt Parul Choudhary 21-16, 21-7.
Doubles: Girls: Durga Isha Kandrapu & Keerthy Manchala bt Aditi Deepak Raj & Vriddhi Ponnamma (Kar) 21-16, 21-19.
Mixed doubles: Manish Reddy & Aditi Deepak Raj (Kar) bt Harish Ragavendran & R. Jananika 21-7, 15-21, 21-19.
U-15: Singles: Girls: Tanvi Patri bt Hamsini Chadaram 21-19, 21-6;
Doubles: Boys: Rahul Kadapakula & Vedant Pah bt Gumsh Licha & Karnash Naidu (Kar) 17-21, 21-17, 21-17.
Girls: Shaina Maanimuthu & Aikya Shetty (Kar) bt Pranjal Prashant Shinde & Gatha Suryawansh 21-15, 25-23.

LIVE TELECAST

India Women vs South Africa Women: 2nd ODI, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 1.30 p.m.
T20 World Cup: Star Sports 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m. & 6 a.m. (Thursday)
Football: Euro 2024: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6.30, 9.30 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)

Tatum powers Celtics to a record 18th title

Best on show: Celtics' shooting guard Brown, named the Finals MVP, proudly holds aloft the Larry O'Brien Trophy. GETTY IMAGES

NBA FINALS

Reuters
BOSTON

Jayson Tatum produced a dazzling 31-point display as the Boston Celtics dominated the Dallas Mavericks 106-88 to clinch a record-breaking 18th NBA championship on Monday.

Humbled by Dallas in a 38-point game four drubbing on Friday, Boston slammed the door on any chance of a Mavericks fightback to seal a 4-1 series victory and claim the Larry O'Brien Trophy at an electric TD Garden.

Tatum spearheaded a superb performance at both ends of the floor as Boston pulled clear of its arch-rival Los Angeles Lakers to stand alone with 18 titles.

The emphatic win came 16 years to the day after Boston's last triumph – over the Lakers – in 2008.

Jaylen Brown, who was named Finals Most valuable Player, gave Tatum scoring support with 21 points.